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CONTENTS

Latin America

Vol VI No 142 *24 July 1981*

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

Socialist International Group Meets in St Georges A 1

ARGENTINA

Envoy in USSR Finds Events of Plane Loss 'Odd' B 1
Declaration on 1881 Treaty Anniversary Issued B 1
Government Denies Changes in Delegation to Vatican B 2
Argentine, Dominican Joint Declaration Issued B 3
Justice Minister on Economic, Political Issues B 4
Justicialist Leader Bittel on Return to Power B 5
Interior Ministry Confirms Labor Leaders' Arrest B 5

BOLIVIA

Banished Military Officers Arrested Near Border C 1
Government Approves New Antidrug Trafficking Plan C 1
[PRESENCIA 11 Jul]

BRAZIL

Government Has Own Proposals for Electoral Reform D 1
[O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO 22 Jul]
Chile Negotiating Purchase of Military Planes D 1

COLOMBIA

M-19 Guerrillas Send Government 'Peace Proposal' F 1
Joint Communique Signed With Egyptian Minister F 1

PERU

Government To Adopt Financial Austerity Program J 1
Government Terms 48-Hour Miners' Strike Failure J 1

URUGUAY

Envoy Middendorf's Visit Improves U.S. Relations K 1
Agriculture, Fishing Minister Zubillaga Resigns K 1
COMASPO Continues Meetings With Political Leaders K 1

VENEZUELA

Joint Statement Issued on Egyptian Minister's Visit [MENA] L 1
Ministry Reports Decreasing Production of Crude L 1

MEXICO

Official Comments on Tuna Conflict With U.S. M 1
Pemex Issues Figures on Hydrocarbons Reserves M 1
Japan To Maintain Oil Imports at 100,000 Barrels M 1
New Saudi Arabian Ambassador on Oil Policy M 2
Singapore Ambassador Hails North-South Dialogue M 2
Briefs: Ambassadorial Appointments; New Ambassadors Present Credentials M 2

CENTRAL AMERICA

COSTA RICA

Authorities Discover Plan To Sabotage Elections P 1
President Carazo Discusses Bill To Devalue Colon P 1
Coffee Bureau Suspends Exports Temporarily P 2

EL SALVADOR

Ferman Cienfuegos on Military Situation, Elections [Radio Venceremos] P 2
Talk of Negotiations Leftist Propaganda 'Gimmick' P 5
Popular Orientation Party Asks for Registration [EL MUNDO 20 Jul] P 6
Venceremos Warns Against Foreign Intervention P 6
Reportage on Continuing Army, Guerrilla Clashes P 6
Attack on Jocoaitique Repelled [EL MUNDO 20 Jul] P 6
Electric Towers Blown Up [Radio Venceremos]
Medical Equipment Confiscated [EL DIARIO DE HOY 21 Jul] P 7
Officials Accused of Organizing Criminal Gang [EL MUNDO 20 Jul] P 7
Revolutionary Trade Union Presents Demands [EL MUNDO 20 Jul] P 8

GUATEMALA

Reportage on Army, Guerrilla Confrontations P 9
Sixth, Seventh Redoubts Found P 9
ORPA, FAR Redoubts P 9
Army Truck Mined on Port Road P 10
Municipal Building Burned P 10
Meeting Held at Seized Farm P 10
800 Guerrillas' Names Found P 10
Army Source Reports Growing Guerrilla Desertions P 11

HONDURAS

Photos of Salvadoran Helicopters Published P 11
Appeal to President for Protection From Military P 12
Liberals Accused of Excluding PNH From Elections P 12
U.S. Firms Accused of Withholding Oil Information P 13

NICARAGUA

20 Jul News Conference of High-Ranking Officials P 13
24 Jul Ceremony Marks 20th Anniversary of FSLN P 22
Bulgarian Leader Hails FSLN, Bonds With People P 23
GDR Official Impressed by 19 July Celebrations P 23
Rightists To Continue Participating in Forum P 23
Government Begins Releasing 200 Former Somozists P 24
Clash Reported Near Costa Rican Border 22 Jul P 24
Firms Confiscated by Junta Formally Notified P 24
Former Owners Claiming Properties They Abandoned P 25
Popular Organizations Oppose Closing of Station P 25
[BARRICADA 9 Jul]
Director Calls Closing Illegal P 26
Minister Says Enough Wheat Exists for 18 Months P 26
Briefs: Malaria Situation; Cotton Plans; P 26
Clergymen in Eastern Bloc

CUBA

Fidel Castro Visits Isle of Youth Installations Q 1
Rodriguez Closes MINREX Administrative Meeting Q 1
New Ambassador to USSR Named; Other Appointments Q 1
Briefs: Condolences for Bulgarian Minister Q 1

CARIBBEAN

Cuban Culture Minister Attends Caribbean Festival S 1
Further Comments by Minister [Havana] S 2

JAMAICA

Fishing Agreement To Be Signed With Colombia S 2

ST VINCENT

Briefs: ROK Ambassador S 2

SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL GROUP MEETS IN ST GEORGES

FL232341 Bridgetown CANA in English 2336 GMT 23 Jul 81

[Text] St Georges, Grenada, 23 Jul (CANA)--A 2-day meeting of the Socialist International Committee for Latin America and the Caribbean opened today with Secretary General Bernt Carlsson hailing Grenada's "progress in the fields of social and economic human rights." We have been witnessing how the new Government of Grenada has been making tremendous progress in the fields of social and economic rights," Mr Carlsson told delegates, "and SI (Socialist International) now expects that the New Jewel Movement (NJM) will also show, in the near future, similar progress in the fields of civil and political rights," the secretary general added.

Mr Carlsson said the Socialist International (SI) would continue to express its full support for the New Jewel Movement, "especially at these difficult times when the country is being threatened and cajoled by a power of immense, superior physical means, the United States." The United States has attempted to block European Community aid to Grenada. The Caribbean Development Bank recently turned down a 4-million-dollar (US) loan after the U.S. Government stipulated that none of the money should go to Grenada. The United States has urged the People's Revolutionary Government in Grenada, which has close ties with Cuba, to hold elections.

The committee's fourth meeting in 2 years discussed political and economic developments in Latin America and the Caribbean. The agenda included a discussion on aspects of democracy. Mr Carlsson said that when Socialist International used the term "human rights" this was not limited to the concept of civil and political rights. "We also include in our definition of human rights the concepts of economic and social rights," he added.

The secretary general said that, while stressing economic and social rights, the organization also kept in mind the civil and political human rights were essential as a basis for the progress of man. "SI fights for civil and political human rights," Mr Carlsson said. The problem of human rights in a global perspective, the secretary general continued, must be connected with a discussion on a new and fairer distribution of the wealth of the planet, in the establishment of new trading patterns and in the liberation of the down-trodden masses of the Third World.

Participants from Argentina, Barbados and Jamaica were expected to arrive later today to join representatives from Curacao, El Salvador, Guatemala and Grenada. The Barbados Labor Party (BLP), Grenada's New Jewel Movement (NJM), both ruling parties, and the opposition People's National Party (PNP) in Jamaica are members of Socialist International. PNP Leader Michael Manley is a vice president of Socialist International. Observers from Socialist International member parties at the meeting come from Canada, France, Sweden and two parties in the United States.

ENVOY IN USSR FINDS EVENTS OF PLANE LOSS 'ODD'

PY231844 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1437 GMT 23 Jul 81

[Text] Buenos Aires, 23 Jul (NA)--Leopoldo Bravo, Argentine Ambassador in the Soviet Union, expressed surprise at the confusing circumstances which surrounded the alleged crash of an Argentine cargo plane in USSR territory and said: "We are now expecting the USSR government to grant our request to be taken to the place of the crash to personally ascertain the fate of our fellow countrymen."

In a telephone interview to NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS, Bravo said that "they (the Soviets) have not specified the characteristics and nationality of the plane which, they say, collided with a Russian military airplane. But if it is true that it fell and caught fire, they should let us go to see the plane even if it has burned and, if unfortunately there are no survivors, they will have to give us the bodies of the Argentine crew."

He added: "I hope that the Soviets will give us a formal and concrete report on what happened and that they will agree to take us to the site of the accident. In compliance with my government's instructions I went to the Soviet Foreign Ministry this morning and formally requested that the case be investigated."

Bravo also confirmed that even though he had reported the disappearance of the Argentine plane to Soviet authorities 4 days ago, he found out about an unidentified plane which had illegally entered Soviet air space and after colliding with a military plane had caught fire and crashed, only yesterday through a TASS communique.

"Obviously, even though they do not say so, the aircraft in question is the same one. That is why we have asked them to take us to the site of the accident. In addition to asking for permission for myself, I have also asked permission for our aeronautics attache, Col Luis Cesar Etchegoyen, and Argentine Consul General in Moscow Ana Maria Mira."

Braveo, who will leave his post in Moscow on 28 August for another diplomatic assignment, also said that in addition to the Argentine Government's request to investigate the fate of the three Argentine crew members, he has also received information from the British Embassy regarding a British subject who was working as a purser on the plane.

The ambassador also said that he was aware that this or some other plane belonging to the same cargo company had been flying from the Soviet Union to Buenos Aires, carrying artists and animals of the Moscow circus.

On being told that the strange event took place when the plane was returning from its third flight along the same route, which made it very odd that the pilots could have strayed into Soviet air space by mistake, Bravo answered: "Yes, everything is very odd; that is why we want to go there."

DECLARATION ON 1881 TREATY ANNIVERSARY ISSUED

PY231927 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1140 GMT 23 Jul 81

[Text] Buenos Aires, 23 Jul (TELAM)--Last night the Foreign Relations Ministry issued a declaration on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the signing of the border treaty between Argentina and Chile. The declaration points out that this treaty "marked the culmination of a long period of bitter controversies and difficult negotiations."

The declaration reads as follows:

The border treaty between the Argentine Republic and the Chilean Republic was signed in Buenos Aires on 23 July 1881. This treaty, which today was signed 100 years ago, marked the culmination of a long period of bitter controversies and difficult negotiations during which on several occasions the two countries were confronted with the risk of a serious conflict.

However, the presevering efforts and the effective diplomacy of the leaders of those times led to negotiations to reach an agreement which constituted an honorable political commitment to the higher claims of the two parties. It marked a reconciliation and established the grounds for a coexistance which has been maintained throughout a century.

It is only fair to recall that during the final phase of the 1881 negotiations the two governments had the cooperation of the United States, through its plenipotentiary ambassadors in Buenos Aires and Santiago and that the cooperation granted by that friendly government was very valuable for overcoming the problem.

The 1881 treaty was the victory of the Argentine and Chilean desire for peace. It viewed the main claims of the two countries with realism, safeguarded their vital interests and opened the path for an era of cooperation and prosperity for the two parties. Argentina and Chile understood that a permanent confrontation or an obstinate intransigency could represent the worst option for the future.

Now that the Argentine and Chilean Governments are negotiating a definite solution to the southern conflict with the invaluable cooperation which the mediation of His Holiness Pope John Paul II represents, it is appropriate to recall the spirit of conciliation and foresight of the authors of the 1881 treaty and to seek in it the necessary inspiration to pursue the task of strengthening the friendship between the two peoples who are inseparably united by nature and history.

The 1881 treaty based the establishment of the border line between Chile and Argentina on the following established standards: the peak of the Andes Mountain Range and the Atlantic-Pacific principle. These principles were confirmed and explained in subsequent bilateral agreements among which the 1893 additional protocol and the pacts signed in May 1902 are the most important. They were also ratified by the fact that the two nations constantly implemented them with the full conviction that they constituted the permanent regulating principles for a harmonious coexistence.

The terms of the 1881 treaty which were explained by the 1893 protocol and the pacts signed in May were then handed over for implementation to the National Commission for International Limits, which is still carrying out its task.

Article No 6 of the 1881 treaty solemnly proclaims that the border which it establishes will be the irreplaceable limit between the two republics. Loyal to the principle, which states that what is agreed on between two parties will be observed faithfully, Argentina has respected and will continue to respect its commitment, abiding by it to secure national sovereignty with calmness and firmness.

GOVERNMENT DENIES CHANGES IN DELEGATION TO VATICAN

PY240216 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1108 GMT Jul 81

[Text] Buenos Aires, 23 Jul (NA)--The Argentine Foreign Ministry has denied reports that Ambassador Guillermo Moncayo and Gen (ret) Ricardo Etcheverry Boneo, the Argentine delegates to the Vatican negotiations on the border dispute with Chile, will be replaced.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Federico Erhart del Campo considers the reports "absolutely untrue." He has confirmed, however, that Counselor Luis Riccheri will replace Federico Mirre in the Argentine delegation to the Vatican. Mirre was transferred to the Argentine Consulate in Frankfurt.

Mirre was transferred after a report he had submitted to the Foreign Ministry became publicly known. The report dealt with alleged remarks made against the Argentine Government by Cardinal Antonio Samore, the pope's representative in the Vatican medication.

According to the news reports denied by the Foreign Ministry, Moncayo and Etcheverry Boneo will be replaced by former Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Mendez and by Foreign Ministry Policy Director Enrique Candiotti, respectively.

ARGENTINE, DOMINICAN JOINT DECLARATION ISSUED

PY230319 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1240 GMT 21 Jul 81

[Text] Buenos Aires, 21 Jul (TELAM)--In a joint declaration signed this afternoon at the foreign Ministry, Argentina and the Dominican Republic agreed on the need to preserve stability in Central America and in the Caribbean, avoiding all kinds of direct or indirect interference.

The declaration, which was signed by Foreign Ministers Oscar Camilion and Manuel Enrique Tavares Espaillat, states that the socioeconomic and political crisis affecting some Central American countries call for solutions which, based on self-determination and the preservation of people's interests, will ensure respect for sovereignty and development.

The two ministers stressed the need to implement an effective cooperation and assistance program for Central America and the Caribbean. They expressed their interest in every initiative directed toward that goal, provided it ensures the region's stability and accelerated economic development, based on the full observance of the guiding principles of international coexistence.

In this regard, the Argentine foreign minister pointed to his country's consistent policy of cooperation with and assistance to countries of that region by providing aid, to the extent of its possibilities, in the financial, commercial, cultural and technical-scientific fields.

The Dominican foreign minister expressed his government's solidarity with legitimate Argentine aspiration regarding the Malvinas, stressing the need for a prompt return of the islands, in keepiong with the UN resolutions on the subject.

The declaration stated that the two parties have analyzed the international economic situation and have concluded that those problems affecting the underdeveloped countries will not be solved without a basic, harmonious change in the structure of interntional economic relations throughthe establishment of a new international economic order based on principles of equality, justice and reciprocal benefits.

The two ministers also expressed their common aspiration to promote the gradual and progressive implementation of an overall integration process in Latin America. They noted that the Latin American Integration Association (LAIA) opens ample possibilities for advancing toward fulfilling this aspiration.

The two parties reaffirmed their strong support for the principles and purposes consecrated in the UN and OAS Charters, particularly those regarding nonintervention in the internal affairs of other countries, the commitment not to use or threaten to use force in international relations, and respect for self-determination, sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity.

Among other considerations, the two ministers deemed it necessary to promote cultural exchange between their countries and in this regard, they stressed the importance of expediting the implementation of the 1967 cultural agreement through programs which are now being studied.

Finally, Minister Tavares invited Dr Camilion to visit Santo Domingo. The Argentine minister thanked Tavares for the invitation, which he accepted; and it was agreed that the visit will take place at a date to be set in accordance with the two ministers' agendas.

Later, the Dominican foreign minister gave a reception in honor of his Argentine counterpart at the Sheraton Hotel. He will travel to Lima tomorrow at 1000, thus ending the official visit to our country since he arrived last Friday.

JUSTICE MINISTER ON ECONOMIC, POLITICAL ISSUES

PY221752 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2100 GMT 19 Jul 81

[Text] Lima, 19 Jul (TELAM)--Argentine Justice Minister Amadeo Frugoli gave an exclusive press interview to the Peruvian newspaper LA PRENSA to talk about Argentine political and economic issues.

Frugoli attended t h e fifth meeting of Philippine and Spanish-Luso-American justice ministers in Lima. In the first part of the interview he talks about the subversion that took Argentina to the brink of chaos. He stated that, "in retrospect, it shows alarming similarities with what has been recently happening in Peru."

When asked about Peronism, he did not hesitate to answer: "If by Peronism we understand a movement of organized masses, it does not exist because Peron was its organization or structure. Maria Estela Martinez de Peron has no chance. The only thing she has is that her name is Peron. They need a symbol to act. She was useful to them during her imprisonment because she was a banner...but problems started when she was released." He also recalled that her defending counsel was booed in San Vicente (house near Buenos Aires where Mrs Peron served her imprisonment) by the ultraverticalist, political, labor union Peronist sectors and by provincial sectors. He also said that the only person who could handle those sectors was Peron, although during the last period even he could not cope with them.

The Argentine justice minister stressed that he did not believe that the leftist sectors would form a great front. He said that Peronist labor union leaders will retreat to their specific positions to survive within the political line, the Peronist keynote...around some local provincial leader, engaging in political activities. "I do not see Peronism," he added, "as an organized party, with organized structures, government projects, and established authorities."

When referring to the other Argentine political parties, Frugoli said that the Radical Civic Union won the support of 21 percent of voters in the last election and that it has an organization headed by Balbin. After Balbin I do not know what could happen.

Three independent parties ran in this last election: Manrique's, Alsogaray's and ours. We added up to 21.9 percent [as received]. Frondizi has a very small party, with some influence in certain business organizations and nothing else.

Frugoli then referred to the economic problem. When asked why Martinez de Hoz's experiment had failed, he answered: "There is a great instrumentation problem which was aggravated at the end of 1978 and at the beginning of 1979, and which started producing a number of deviations from the 1976 original program. Basically, I believe that the problem was the urge for stopping inflation with an artificially undervalued dollar and establishing the indexing system at the same time. Savings were encouraged by means of an amendment freeing interest rates, but at the same time the government guaranteed up to 100 percent of deposits. This involved a contradiction since risk is an essential element in the market economy, and the government's guarantee eliminated risk, giving rise to adventures like the ones Mr Trozo (former Bir Bank's president) and other economic groups embarked on."

Minister Frugoli explained how those groups worked and he also mentioned the elimination of custom tariffs on imports as an additional problem.

As for the measures that have been taken to devise a solution he said: "Now that it has taken over this government must inevitably and openly try to solve the economic problem. Three devaluations were needed to achieve the stability which we now have through the creation of two types of markets: the commercial one, in which exporters operate through the government, and a free financial market."

When asked if the debt of public enterprises still continued, he answered yes. "They are perhaps the Achilles' heel. These enterprises' deficits are a very serious problem. It amounts to approximately $11 billion. But delivering them to private owners is not easy, because first we must find someone who wants to buy them."

When asked whether there was not enough buying capacity, he answered: that is the problem. A policy for selling public enterprises to private owners has not been implemented in the last 5 years. The Argentine productive system is unbalanced. That is why from the very beginning the president (Lt Gen Roberto Eduardo Viola) has stated that our main goal is to revive the productive system.

The minister said that foreign trade prospects are good. Grain crops are likely to reach extraordinary levels. We have broken the meat sales record in one month and there is a steady tendency in that direction.

JUSTICIALIST LEADER BITTEL ON RETURN TO POWER

PY211915 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1516 GMT 21 Jul 81

[Text] Corrientes, 21 Jul (NA)--Justicialist Party First Vice President Deolindo Bittel said here today that "it is quite possible" that this political party will return to power and added that should this happen "we will have to correct certain things which could be considered errors;" however, "we will not change our objective of building a just, free and sovereign nation."

Bittel, who has been touring this province, told the journalists in Esquina, south of this city, that the institutionalization of the country must take place "as soon as possible."

The Justicialist leader also reiterated that there should be "no discrimination at all" in connection with the multiparty call for unity launched by the Radical Civic Union.

INTERIOR MINISTRY CONFIRMS LABOR LEADERS' ARREST

PY232138 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1748 GMT 23 Jul 81

[Text] Buenos Aires, 23 Jul (NA)--The Interior Ministry officially revealed this afternoon that 23 labor leaders are being detained at the disposal of the courts because of their involvement in the so-called day of protest called for yesterday by the General Labor Confederation [CGT], whose leader, Saul Ubaldini, is among the detainees.

The other detainees are: Jose Rodriguez, Lesio Romero, Alberto Clavera, Manuel Diz Rey, Ricardo Perez, Valerio Luna, Ramon Narvaez, Jose Carbone, Jose Manuel Echague, Bartolome Albarracin, Jorge Videla, Hugo Rafael Ortolan, Roberto Juan Cazon, Domingo Caruso, Osvaldo Ruben Mattana, Carlos Aurelio Traversa, Carlos Raul Amarante, Hugo Alberto Fernandez, Jorge Eduardo Martini, Urbano Ruben Rojo, Hector Mario Imperiali and Ricardo Alfredo Yacobs.

The Interior Ministry also revealed that arrest warrants have been issued for labor leaders Fernando Donaires and Osvaldo Borda.

BANISHED MILITARY OFFICERS ARRESTED NEAR BORDER

PY231558 Paris AFP in Spanish 1456 GMT 23 Jul 81

[Text] La Paz, 23 Jul (NA)--It was reported here today that an unspecified number of military officers recently banished from the country were arrested near the border with Argentina on Wednesday.

Unofficial sources indicated that among those arrested are Lt Col Rolando Saravia Ortuno, Lt Col Emilio Lanza Armaza, Maj Eduardo Galindo and Maj Fernando Galindo.

Saravia Ortuno, minister of Campesino affairs during Gen David Padilla Arancibia's administration (1978-79) and staunch opponent of former President Hugo Banzer Suarez (1971-78), was banished to Argentina on 2 July 1981.

Saravia Ortuno had been charged with involvement in the coup d'etat staged on 27 June by the then army commander in chief, Gen Humberto Cayoja Riart.

Lanza Armaza and the Galindo brothers were banished to Quito, Ecuador, a few days after their attempted coup on 26 May when they managed to stage an uprising of the Special Troops Training Center (CITE) against President Luis Garcia Meza.

The report indicated that two automobiles, a Toyota jeep and a private plane have been confiscated from the prisoners.

GOVERNMENT APPROVES NEW ANTIDRUG TRAFFICKING PLAN

PY231743 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 11 Jul 81 p 8

[Text] The government has approved a new plan to combat the drug traffic and the effects of that illegal trade. The measures include the immediate control and repression of that activity, the substitution of other crops for coca plantations and other measures that will escalate the campaign.

It has empowered the National Antidrug Council, which is now the top organization in Bolivia that will be charged with all drug problems, to give stimulus to the fight and to act as liaison with national and international organizations.

To this end the council has drafted a plan of action. The plan establishes operations at the national level for the arrest of anybody who is active, participates or is an accomplice in drug trafficking.

The end product and the installations where drugs are produced or where byproducts for production are manufactured will be confiscated.

The property, movable assets, vehicles and installations etc., belonging to anybody involved in production and commercialization and in drug trafficking will also be confiscated.

Operations will be carried out throughout the country to identify and control the sites from which drugs are being distributed and transported for national consumption or export. The plan provides for:

Control over production and marketing of coca leaves, as well as over the process of replacing coca leaves with other crops, by means of a nationwide control of coca trade;
Reshuffling of marketing procedures for coca leaves in the country, that is for chewing and medical uses;
Control of coca leaf exports aimed at the same uses;
Creation of an autonomous entity charged with purchasing and storing coca leaves;

Purchase by the state of coca crops in order to prevent them from falling into the hands of cocaine manufacturers;
Restrictions on the farming of coca leaves which could be used only for chewing, medical uses and legal exports aimed at the same, as well as other legitimate uses;
Assessment of areas assigned to the farming of coca leaves in various regions of the country;
Assessment of yearly production of coca leaves and the destination of this production;
Means of transport used in marketing coca leaves;
Identification of centers of consumption at the national level and assessment of the quantities involved;
Replacement of coca leaf crops which are being used for illegal trafficking by other, equally profitable, crops;
Selection of such replacement crops;
Programs for the production and opening of markets for these new products;
Timetables and deadlines for the implementation of the various programs and projects;
Costs and investments for each project, financing of the programs and support which the peasants or producers should receive for the period between the launching of the project and the sale of the resulting products;
Improvement of current antidrug measures and the organization of institutions charged with the implementation of these measures;
Reshuffling of personnel belonging to antidrug organizations aimed at the attainment of the established objectives;
Legal and technical reorganization of court mechanisms applicable to drug cases in order to improve effectiveness and efficiency and to expedite the trials;
Evaluation of projects currently underway designed to control and prevent drug addiction or to cure members of the society who have fallen prey to this addiction;
Organization of campaigns aimed at disseminating knowlege related to evils caused by this illegal habit and trade;
Reorganization of the National Antidrug Council so as to enable it to properly perform the functions with which it has been entrusted;
Establishment of rules and regulations for its activities;
Supply of human and material assets required by the National Antidrug Council for its normal and sustained operation;
Coordination of National Antidrug Council operations with those of other state organizations;
An emergency plan aimed at programming government development tasks within the framework of antidrug repression so as to soften the effects of the decision to replace coca crops and the antidrug struggle;
Plans and programs for immediate implementation aimed at improving the income of large national sectors;
Establishment of a new national development model capable of eradicating this dependency factor;
Creation of a development fund the assessment of the cost of the emergency plan with the cooperation of international organization and interested governments;
Coordination of efforts aimed at devising government plans, programs and strategies with international organizations and interested governments;
Negotiations with international organizations and friendly countries involved in the problem so as to obtain aid for the antidrug programs.

In keeping with international treaties related to narcotics and hallucinogenic drugs signed by Bolivia, the National Government has ordered that for the implementation of international treaties the National Antidrug Council will request advisors in the fields of organization, methodology, social and scientific research, legal procedures, social aid and other matters jointly selected by the United Nations and the National Antidrug Council.

The UNFDAC [expansion unknown] has been requested to act as liaison organization to implement the current programs.

GOVERNMENT HAS OWN PROPOSALS FOR ELECTORAL REFORM

PY240114 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 22 Jul 81 p 4

[By Carlos Chagas]

[Summary] The electoral reform has already been defined by the government, according to civil cabinet Household Minister Golbery do Couto e Silva, who has privately so informed state governors and former governors who have called at his office. Despite tactical denials which could be made, the reform will consist of four main changes in the current rules of the game: "intraparty subgroups" [sublegendas] for governatoral elections; straight party ticket voting in elections for municipal councilmen, state deputies and federal deputies [vinculacao de votos proporcionais]; a ban on party coalitions; and a softening of the so-called Falcao Law which restricts free political campaigning over radio and television. These changes will be made through four different bills to be submitted to Congress in August, and the government plans to avail itself of the constitutional mechanism whereby bills are passed because the regulation-allowed time for their discussion expires without Congress voting on them. It became known by some governors and former governors this week that the four changes are not just being contemplated in Planalto Palace, but they have already been decided on by those who wield the real power.

When President Figueiredo returns to Planalto Palace in the next few days, he will participate in the final writing of the four bills, which he approved in principle before he went in the hospital for eye surgery in Rio de Janeiro.

CHILE NEGOTIATING PURCHASE OF MILITARY PLANES

PY231327 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1227 GMT 23 Jul 81

[Text] Sao Paulo, 23 Jul (TELAM)--News media circles today revealed that the Chilean Armed Forces are negotiating a large contract to purchase military planes from the Brazilian Aeronautics Company (EMBRAER).

EMBRAER spokesmen have told GAZETA MERCANTIL that the Chilean Navy and Army have voiced their interest in purchasing Bandeirantes planes for air patrol and troop transport duties.

So far, EMBRAER has sold only 12 planes to Chile, 9 of them are Bandeirantes which are being used for operations in the Beagle Channel and the other 3 are being used as transport planes.

The Brazilian newspaper did not reveal the amount of money involved in the deal or the number of planes which could be sold to the Chilean Armed Froces, but merely stated that the contract is a big one.

M-19 GUERRILLAS SEND GOVFRNMENT 'PEACE PROPOSAL'

PA240235 Paris AFP in Spanish 2150 GMT 23 Jul 81

[Text] Bogota, 23 Jul (AFP)--Television entertainer Fernando Gonzalez "(Pacheco)" and journalist Alexandra Pineda, who were "kidnapped" yesterday by the guerrilla 19 April Movement (M-19), were released today in a western sector of Bogota. Following their release, the former hostages went to a local newspaper, EL ESPECTADOR, and made statements.

Through the hostages, the extremists sent the government a peace proposal that includes, among other things, the lifting of the state of siege, the abolishment of the security statute, a total amnesty, and a dialogue with government, political, legislative, military, and religious leader in order to find solutions for the problems in Colombia.

JOINT COMMUNIQUE SIGNED WITH EGYPTIAN MINISTER

PA240327 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0250 GMT 24 Jul 81

[Text] Bogota, 23 Jul (EFE)--Egypt and Colombia today reaffirmed their concern over the spreading arms buildup in the Caribbean area and said that they support any initiative that will ensure peace in the region.

In a joint communique, Butrus Ghali, visiting Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, and Colombian Foreign Minister Carlos Lemos Simmonds said that their countries are prepared to help in the economic development of the area according to their capacities.

They reaffirmed their support for the fundamental principles on which international relations are based, such as nonintervention in the internal affairs of other states, the legal equality of states, the peaceful solution of controversies and the prohibition of the use of force.

They expressed their concern over the continuous deterioration of the world's economic situation and agreed on the need to find structural changes in international relations in this sector.

They conceded that the proposal for the Law of the Sea convention must faithfully reflect the principle that the underwater areas and seabeds located beyond the national jurisdictions are the common heritage of humanity.

They emphasized that the original meaning which inspired the Nonaligned Movement must be preserved against any attempt to change it; that is, to remain equidistant from the blocs and spheres of influence of the superpowers in order to strengthen international peace and to promote the progress of the developing countries.

In his talks with the Colombian Government, Ghali expressed his country's interest in Colombia's participation in the multinational force which will be established to keep the peace in the Middle East.

Lemos Simmonds announced that Colombia will study the proposal to make a decision that will not harm its friendship with any nation.

GOVERNMENT TO ADOPT FINANCIAL AUSTERITY PROGRAM

PY240311 Paris AFP in Spanish 1114 GMT 17 Jul 81

[Text] Lima, 17 Jul (AFP)--The Peruvian Government will institute greater control over public expenditures and over the deficits of state enterprises, will reduce subsidies and will increase fiscal austerity, among other measures, in order to overcome the delicate economic situation, Prime Minister and Economic Minister Manuel Ulloa announced here.

He added that together with making the state enterprises more efficient, it was necessary to reduce the state participation wherever it was not necessary.

After a meeting with the members of the Joint Budget Commission of two houses of Congress, Ulloa said that the current crisis can be overcome with those measures and the economy can be reactivated in the medium term, with control of inflation and an improvement in the current employment levels and wage levels.

GOVERNMENT TERMS 48-HOUR MINERS' STRIKE FAILURE

PY220340 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1820 GMT 21 Jul 81

[Text] Lima, 21 Jul (LATIN-REUTER)--The Peruvian Government today termed the 48-hour miners strike which will end at midnight as a failure and said that only 15 percent of the labor force observed it.

The labor minister, Alfonso Grados, said that the strike, called to demand the rehiring of dismissed workers and a wage increase, nevertheless caused grave harm to the Peruvian economy at a time when the prices of minerals are declining.

Grados said that among the big mines, only the Cuajone copper mine which is run by the U.S. Southern Peru Corporation was paralyzed. A spokesman of that company confirmed the suspension of work in Cuajone, which produces 120,000 tons of copper per year.

Among others, the state enterprises Minero Peru and Centromin Peru said that tasks continued normally in their deposits.

The Miners Federation, on its part, estimated that at least 20,000 members observed the stoppage--that began early Monday--out of a total of 70,000 mining workers.

Spokesmen for the federation added that the objective of the movement was to demand the rehiring of more than 100 workers who were dismissed 3 years ago, the recognition of the current leaders, who are among those who were dismissed, and a salary adjustment.

Minister Grados said that he hopes that the leaders of the federation will not carry out their threat to call a general strike for an indefinite period starting 10 August if their petitions are not heeded.

Peru produces 43 million ounces of silver and 40,000 tons of copper per year. The Toquepala and Cuajone deposits, both administered by the Southern Peru Corporation, together account for 70 percent of the copper production and some 6 million ounces of silver.

ENVOY MIDDENDORF'S VISIT IMPROVES U.S. RELATIONS

PY232200 Paris AFP in Spanish 1643 GMT 22 Jul 81

[Text] Montevideo, 22 Jul (AFP)--The excellent relations between Uruguay and the United States since Ronald Reagan became U.S. president were constantly underlined during the nearly 24-hour visit here by the new U.S. ambassador to the OAS, John William Middendorf.

The U.S. diplomat and personal emmisary of Reagan today traveled to Paraguay, the last stop in his Latin American trip, after having interviews with Uruguayan President Aparicio Mendez and Foreign Minister Estanislao Valdes.

At the end of both interviews Middendorf refused to give details of the conversations except that they were pleasant and cordial and that he had handed over to the head of state a greetings message to the Uruguayan people from President Reagan.

For his part, Foreign Minister Valdes said that the topics that were dealt with were confidential and he refused to confirm or deny the rumors that are circulating claiming that Middendorf is seeking support for the new U.S. Government position toward Cuba.

According to Valdes, the visit was for the purpose of promoting relations within the inter-American system, and he said that it is clear that the Reagan administration has a greater interest in relations with the continent and particularly with Uruguay.

AGRICULTURE, FISHING MINISTER ZUBILLAGA RESIGNS

PY180143 Paris AFP in Spanish 2123 GMT 17 Jul 81

[Text] Montevideo, 17 Jul (AFP)--The Uruguayan Government today accepted the resignation of the minister of agriculture and fishing, agronomist Felix Zubillaga, it was officially announced here.

The communique of the National Public Relations Directorate of the Presidency of the Republic (DINARP) did not specify the reasons for the resignation. DINARP announced that Zubillaga will be temporarily replaced by the minister of industry and energy, Engineer Francisco Tourreilles.

Zubillaga had been named at the beginning of this year and he has had to bear bitter criticisms of his policy toward the farmers, who are affected by severe economic crisis.

COMASPO CONTINUES MEETINGS WITH POLITICAL LEADERS

PY221626 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 21 Jul 81

[Text] The meeting with proscribed political leaders regarding the current process continue. (Raumar Yude), who was the first to meet with Interior Minister Yamandu Trinidad and other government officials said that the armed forces have a sincere desire for returning to democracy. (Julio Maria Sanguinetti) also emphasized at the end of the meeting with the minister that the dialogue was positive.

This afternoon the Armed Forces Commission for Political Affairs, COMASPO, will meet with the Civic Union and the Nationalist Restoration Party. Ourmobile unit located in front of the Interior Ministry now reports:

The proscribed political leaders continue to meet with Interior Minister Yamandu Trinidad; the president of the National Fuels, Alcohol and Cement Administration, ANCAP, Gen Jorge Borad; and COMASPO President Gen Abdon Raimundez in the Interior Ministry.

The first meeting was held with (Raumar Yude) of the (Igallista Colorado Alliance). The last leader to come out of the ministry was (Wilson Elso Gone), former deputy of the Rocha Movement for the Treinta y Tres Department. When the former deputy came out of the ministry after meeting with the government officials, he said that the conversations were frank and that everyone expressed his points of view on various matters.

[Begin Gone recording] We came to take part in a wide open dialogue during which everyone freely expressed his position on what is best for the country. Naturally, I, as member of the National Party, will report about this meeting to members of the Rocha National Movement, to the executive board and to the members of the triumvirate.

The tone of the conversations was pleasant. We were asked to freely express our positions about the situation the country is currently experiencing, about the steps the armed forces are taking. We talked about political parties, the transition period and constitutional reforms.

There was one subject I emphasized: proscriptions. I was not planning on doing it for reasons you all understand, since this directly affects me. We believe that these meetings are positive as long as everyone can freely express his position, that each representative of the traditional parties can make a contribution on matters he believes are important and that he can be heard with understanding [words indistinct]. I realized that what we said was being understood. We believe that with everyone's efforts we will be successful, even in a short time. [end recording]

The government officials are now meeting with former Legislator (Jorge Silveira Zabala). The first to arrive at the Interior Ministry to meet with the interior minister, General Borad and General Raimundez was (Raumar Yude), representative of the (Igallista Colorado Alliance). He said to El Espectador that he was pleased to know that the armed forces have a sincere desire to return to democracy. He added that we all have tomake a contribution and that political parties will have to be united to set an example for national integration. This is what he said:

[Begin Yude recording] I have a good impression. I am leaving the meeting with the satisfaction of knowing that the armed forces have a sincere desire for returning to democracy. I am satisfied. We will all have to make a contribution in some way. No one should be absent; the two political parties, the National Party and Colorado Party, united, will have to set an example for national integration. I have hope for my country. I have great faith in our destiny and I am willing to struggle and to contribute with my efforts to achieve this goal. I do not know if this is the appropriate time but it seems to me that the country needs to remain calm; it needs some tranquillity. The important thing [words indistinct], we have objectives to reach; therefore, it is necessary to follow the right path. And if the citizens of this country have a clear picture of our efforts we will succeed and be able to give the country a better destiny for all of us. [end recording]

(Julio Maria Sanguinette), representative of the 15 July Unity and Reform List, also met with the government officials. He told reporters that known political matters were discussed. He emphasized that there is a good spirit. This is what he said:

[Begin recording] We talked about known political matters, but I prefer not to talk about them at this time.

[Question] [Words indistinct] any agreement reached [words indistinct] with the interior minister and the other representatives of the Executive Branch?

[Answer] What prevailed during the meeting was a good spirit. [end recording]

Interior Minister Trinidad, ANCAP President Board and COMASPO President Abdon Raimundez are now meeting with former legislator of the Herrerista Party (Jorge Silveira Zabala).

JOINT STATEMENT ISSUED ON EGYPTIAN MINISTER'S VISIT

NC231508 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1410 GMT 23 Jul 81

[Text] Caracas, 23 Jul (MENA)--In the course of their discussion of the serious problems affecting world peace, Egypt and Venezuela have affirmed the need to apply the peaceful solutions mentioned in the UN Charter, especially negotiations among the parties concerned to resolve conflicts among nations. This was contained in the joint statement issued on the 18-22 July visit to Venezuela by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali and his delegation, in response to an invitation from the Government of Venezuela.

The joint statement noted that the Egyptian delegation gave a detailed explanation on the situation in the Middle East and the need to continue to make efforts to bring about a just and lasting peace in the area and to achieve the Palestinian people's right to self-determination. The Egyptian delegation also expressed Egypt's interest in the situation in Lebanon and its support for the efforts being made to preserve Lebanon's political independence and territorial integrity.

The statement noted that Dr Ghali acquainted the officials in Venezuela with the latest developments in the situation that lead to the formation of the multinational forces and observers, which is a temporary alternative to the UN peacekeeping forces, and which will take positions on the Egyptian-Israeli border in accordance with the peace treaty between the two countries.

The statement said that Butrus Ghali and Venezuelan Foreign Affairs Minister Dr Jose Alberto Zambrano exchanged views on bilateral relations and regional and international issues. The two ministers also signed a cultural cooperation agreement in view of the close relations between the two countries. The Venezuelan side also listened with interest to an explanation from Dr Ghali on current events in Africa.

During the visit Venezuelan President Luis Herrera Campins received Dr Butrus Ghali, who conveyed to him a message from President As-Sadat.

Dr Ghali's visit to Venezuela is part of a tour of a number of Latin American states.

MINISTRY REPORTS DECREASING PRODUCTION OF CRUDE

PA240252 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2101 GMT 23 Jul 81

[Text] Caracas, 23 Jul (LATIN-REUTER)--The Energy and Mines Ministry reported today that there was an average daily production of 1,699,000 barrels of crude for the week that ended on 21 July.

An official report indicated that this average production was 97,000 barrels lower than that of the week that ended on 15 July, when the average daily production was 1,796,000 barrels.

Before Venezuela decided to reduce its production by 10 percent due to the largest ever supplies of crude in the world, its goal was an average production of 2.2 million barrels daily.

The report said that with last week's production the daily average [for the year] is now 2,124,000 barrels.

Last year the average daily production was 2,168,000 barrels.

OFFICIAL COMMENTS ON TUNA CONFLICT WITH U.S.

PA211934 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0329 GMT 21 Jul 81

[Text] Mexico, 20 Jul (EFE)--Referring to the tuna issue, Fernando Rafful, chief of the Department of Fisheries, today pointed out that the problem does not lie with the U.S. Government but "with the companies that are sabotaging us."

Speaking to newsmen, Rafful added that, since the Mexican Government's seizure of two U.S.-registered tuna boats fishing in Mexican territorial waters, U.S. private companies have refused to buy Mexican tuna, "and even though talks are being held with the fishing authorities, as of now, no agreement has been reached."

Rafful also mentioned that the Mexican Government has had to take a strong stand on this situation, "because we believe," he stressed, "that this should not affect Mexican tuna exports."

PEMEX ISSUES FIGURES ON HYDROCARBONS RESERVES

PA171233 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0300 GMT 17 Jul 81

[Text] Mexico City, 16 Jul (EFE)--Pemex, the state petroleum company, announced today that as of this date, Mexico's proven reserves of hydrocarbons are calculated at 60,126 million barrels.

It also officially was announced that probable reserves total 38,042 million barrels, while potential reserves are estimated at 250 billion barrels.

Pemex also announced that in 1980, the country's refining capacity was increased by 135,000 barrels a day and processing of petrochemical products was increased by 1 million metric tons a year to a total of 8.9 million metric tons.

It was also announced that in 1982 the country expects to double its petrochemical production, completely meeting internal demand and entering international markets as soon as its two petrochemical plants begin to operate at maximum capacity.

JAPAN TO MAINTAIN OIL IMPORTS AT 100,000 BARRELS

FL231540 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0440 GMT 23 Jul 81

[Text] Mexico City, 22 Jul (NOTIMEX)--The Japanese-Mexican Petroleum Import Company, which groups 24 Japanese refineries, has promised to maintain Mexican crude oil imports at 100,000 barrels a day beginning on 1 August, subject to the price that Mexican petroleum will have established by that date.

The two companies set up a long-range program of mutual cooperation involving the possibility of increasing imports to 200,000 additional barrels of Mexican crude at a near date; the purchase by Japan beinning 1982 of other petroleum, petrochemical and liquid gas products; and an extensive technological exchange to benefit the two nations.

In this connection, a group of Japanese technicians will travel to Mexico soon to study the possibilities of improving the refining capacity and quality of Mexican companies. The Japanese experts will profit from Mexico's expertise in the processing of heavy crude and will study the optimal operation of the installations that are under construction by Mexican Petroleum in Salina Cruz, Caxaca, with a view to improving the infrastructure of exports to the East.

NEW SAUDI ARABIAN AMBASSADOR ON OIL POLICY

FL232111 Mexico City NOTIMEX IN Spanish 1951 GMT 23 Jul 81

[Text] Mexico City, 23 Jul (NOTIMEX)--Shaykh (Mohamad Charara), ambassador of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to Mexico, today presented his credentials to President Jose Lopez Portillo. After the ceremony, the new ambassador told newsmen that Saudi Arabia does not pretend to be the nonconformist of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, that it only seeks to avoid sudden changes in the price of crude oil which would provoke a world crisis [words indistinct].

The diplomat asserted that Saudi Arabia wants the international oil market to maintain a firm position without going left or right. He added that Saudi Arabia advocates an increase in the price of crude, but in such a proportion that it would not aggravate the world crisis. Finally, Shaykh (Mohamad Charara) said that oil is a very delicate matter that should not be taken lightly because it concerns everybody, both developed and developing countries, and that Mexico and Saudi Arabia are well aware of that.

SINGAPORE AMBASSADOR HAILS NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE

FL222111 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2108 GMT 22 Jul 81

[Text] Mexico City, 22 Jul (NOTIMEX)--The new ambassador of the Republic of Singapore to Mexico, Mr Tommy Koh, stated on arrival at Mexico City's international airport that the developing countries in the North-South meeting will have an adequate forum for finding solutions to their economic, political and social problems. He also expressed support for the new international economic order and hoped that the international problem will be solved peacefully.

"We must increase the economic development of the weaker nations as Mexico has done with countries which have limited natural resources, as well as contribute to create a world stability in all orders," the ambassador said. Finally, Tommy Koh recognized that Singapore has a lot to learn from Mexico in the industrial area and other branches of the economy.

BRIEFS

AMBASSADORIAL APPOINTMENTS--Mexico City, 22 Jul (NOTIMEX)--The Mexican Government has appointed new ambassadors to Yugoslavia, Austria, Romania, Bulgaria and the Netherlands. They are: Javier Wiener (Zembrano) to Yugoslavia; Roberto de Rosenweig Diaz to Austria as well as the Vienna-based International Atomic Energy Agency and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization; Luis Wybo Alfaro to Romania; Carlos Laguna Zavala to Bulgaria; and Roberto Casellas Leal to the Netherlands. The official communiques on the appointments were released today by the Secretariat of Foreign Affairs. [Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0430 GMT 23 Jul 81 FL]

NEW AMBASSADORS PRESENT CREDENTIALS--Mexico City, 22 Jul (NOTIMEX)--The new ambassadors of Paraguay, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia, the PRC, Singapore and Grenada presented their credentials today to the secretary of foreign affairs, Jorge Castaneda. They are Armin [as received] Gomez Nunez of Paraguay; Peter Usutu Onyige of Nigeria, Shaykh (Mohamad Charara) of Saudi Arabia, Wang Ze of the PRC, Tommy Koh of Singapore, and W. Richard Jacobs of Grenada. [Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0200 GMT 23 Jul 81 FL]

COSTA RICA

AUTHORITIES DISCOVER PLAN TO SABOTAGE ELECTIONS

PA240340 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2357 GMT 21 Jul 81

[Text] San Jose, 21 Jul (ACAN-EFE)--The national security authorities have discovered a secret document of the People's Revolutionary Movement (MPR) in Nicoya, 300 km northwest of this capital, calling for the sabotage of the upcoming presidential elections in this country.

Costa Rica is experiencing the classic preelectoral democratic process, which will culminate with the elections of 7 February 1982.

According to Johnny Chaverri, deputy director of national security, the precise instructions of the extremists are "to prevent the electoral process from being carried out as a civic festivity." Chaverri told newsmen that "it is very worrisome to discover that there is a group working to introduce violence in the upcoming political activities."

The authorities noted that Jorge Alfaro Loria had rented the house in Nicoya where the document was found, but he was not arrested. Alfaro is a union member of the National Association of Public Employees and a very active MRP member.

According to the police, the MRP is the armed branch of the leftist coalition "United People," which has three deputies in the Legislative Assembly.

Chaverri said that the authorities presume that similar instructions to those found in Nicoya might have been given in other areas of the country.

PRESIDENT CARAZO DISCUSSES BILL TO DEVALUE COLON

PA230340 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 21 Jul 81

[Interview with Costa Rican President Rodrigo Carazo; date, place not given--recorded]

[Text] [Carazo] We have submitted a bill through which we are trying to adjust the currency law and the organic law of the Central Bank to the Supreme Court ruling by establishing a devaluation formula: 15 colones per dollar. However, we also note the responsibility to inform the Costa Rican people that according to the Supreme Court, these adjustments must be reviewed periodically in view of the difficult situation we are experiencing. Therefore, as the IMF stated, we are falling into the problem of having a relatively inflexible system. For this reason, the country may be serously affected by delays because of the legislative procedure. However, we have abided by the Supreme Court decision and followed the path it has pointed out because we respect this court. According to the board of directors of the Central Bank, we are trying to achieve a balance in currency exchange in the face of short-term decisions.

[Question] Regarding the Executive Branch's decision to eliminate specific funds to cover its obligations with public employees, don't you think there will be negative reactions with the elimination of community projects?

[Answer] In the first place, I want to tell you that it has hurt us to do this, but if there are no revenues we must somehow produce them and obtain them. The government feels these projects are fundamental to fulfilling its obligation of paying public employees next week and the following week. [sentence as heard] We will try to pay the increase from the moment it is approved, bringing it up to date with the payment for June. Public employees are simultaneously going to receive the increase covering several months. Unfortunately, the funds for this increase have to be obtained from somewhere, because the tax reforms sent to the deputies haven't even been analyzed.

COFFEE BUREAU SUSPENDS EXPORTS TEMPORARILY

PA221959 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1627 GMT 22 Jul 81

[Text] San Jose, 22 Jul (ACAN-EFE)--As of yesterday, Tuesday, Costa Rica stopped the sale of coffee on the world market following a decision the Coffee Bureau of this country announced today.

Mario Fernandez Urpi, bureau director, said that a price defense mechanism called a "temporary suspension of sales in the coffee export registries" is being applied.

The official said that the suspension of sales will be maintained until a final evaluation is made of the frost damage to the Brazilian coffee plantations.

Meanwhile, the Coffee Bureau agreed to set the price at $150 per 60-kg coffee sack in the export registry.

These measures affect 57 percent of the current crop, which is the amount not yet exported by Costa Rica.

EL SALVADOR

FERMAN CIENFUEGOS ON MILITARY SITUATION, ELECTIONS

PA230440 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 23 Jul 81

[Interview with Commander Ferman Cienfuegos, member of the general command of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front, FMLN; date and place not given--recorded]

[Text] [Question] Commander Cienfuegos, could you summarize the military situation at this time in El Salvador?

[Answer] Since January the enemy has launched basically three large military campaigns, from January to March, from March to May and May to July. Each of these maneuvers by the enemy was designed to dismember our strategic forces and dislodge our war fronts from their positions. These objectives were not fulfilled by the enemy, while the FMLN forces not only responded to the offensive campaigns of the enemy, but also launched our own campaigns, which permitted us not only to consolidate our war fronts and their defense lines, but also allowed us to advance on all fronts. At present, we are practically passing from the defense to the offensive throughout the country. This includes, in fact, the coordination of all war fronts. This is the new military situation, and this can be confirmed because the enemy in mid-June and July tried to use every possible war resource at its disposal but was unable to claim even a small military victory.

The enemy, in fact, has fallen into a war of attrition, not only because we are imposing such a war on it, but because, following his plans, he is himself engaging in such an act of exhaustion. In this respect, our evaluation of the present military situation is that overall, the enemy is increasingly worn out, having failed in his campaigns to gain his objectives.

We cannot ourselves claim great victories, but we have won many battles and we may say that this first battle of the general offensive has been successful for us, and that the subsequent battles now underway will be more difficult, but we hope that our forces amassed through these months of action will permit us to continue our advances. At this moment, we are about to enter decisive political and military battles in this war.

[Question] Commander, what is the internal situation of the Salvadoran Armed Forces?

[Answer] On various occasions, the FMLN has repeated that a political division exists within the army. There is unity of command but there is also a political division. This is creating a new situation in the armed forces. They haven't had any opportunities to win the war. They haven't been able to present a single military victory, and this is leading them to lose credibility in the top command. They are losing their credibility as being able to lead the army to victory on the one hand, and on the other, the country's political situation is increasingly complicated and the divisions within the army will reappear sooner or later. Similar signs will become evident soon with divisions and confrontations within the Salvadoran Army.

[Question] Commander Cienfuegos, Thomas Enders has just announced that U.S. military aid to the Salvadoran regime will continue. Are the Salvadoran Armed Forces capable of continuing to absorb this military aid?

[Answer] With all the material and military aid that the United States has given the army, it has practically deployed all its capacity, taking into account that it has a group of advisers who represent more than 30 percent of its officers--this means, I repeat, that its advisers amount to 30 percent of the army officers. If we take these two aspects into account, we see that it has reached a limit in its capacity as an army. Its own officers and the advisers are currently asking for more advisers and more technical and tactical aid from the United States. This implies then that they must receive more advisers, more U.S. involvement in the army in order to advance to a new military situation. This means that the national army must be turned over more each day into the hands of the U.S. Army. If this situation continues, it will inevitably result in open and direct U.S. intervention in our country.

[Question] Could you give us a more detailed explanation of this U.S. intervention?

[Answer] The U.S. intervention would not only have to be the result of a military situation but of an international political situation and it is already a problem of a U.S. willingness for open intervention that it maintained after 15 January. The problem the United States is facing is that there is not only international opposition to intervention but a political correlation that prevents the United States from interfering. This political correlation is increasingly turning against it with each day. This indicates that its interventionist attitude is being undermined not only by the great international opposition but by the domestic situation in the United States. In other words, these would be the factors that would truly influence intervention. Intervention in the country would result in regionalization of the conflict at the Central American level. We know that the United States doesn't view the Salvadoran problem in an isolated way. It sees the Salvadoran problem in the context of the problem of the Caribbean, Central America and all of South America and the world. Therefore, any decision of this kind implies paying the price of regionalizing the conflict. For this reason, we see that it is a process much more complicated than the United States wanted.

[Question] Commander Cienfuegos, aside from the U.S. advisers, are there officers from other Latin American armies supporting the Salvadoran Army?

[Answer] Besides the U.S. advisers there are others from South Korea, Israel, Chile and Argentina. These are small groups of advisers who have become involved in advising on certain military aspects. This does not occur only in the struggle against the urban guerrillas, but also in the field of directing and administering psychological warfare against the people.

[Question] Other than these advisers, are there any mercenaries?

[Answer] Each of these countries has sent mercenaries. Other than the former Somozist guards, there are the Cuban worms. There are mercenaries from South Vietnam, Korea and Argentina.

[Question] Another country involved in the Salvadoran conflict is Venezuela. Could you give us an explanation of how Venezuela has become involved and specifically what role the Venezuelan Social Christian Party [COPEI] plays?

[Answer] On various occasions the FMLN has made public appeals to the Christian democratic parties of the world, including the COPEI of Venezuela. We have urged the Venezuelan Government to become better informed about the Salvadoran situation. Part of the reason, we believe, is that the ideas which COPEI and the Venezuelan Government have are exclusively those presented by the Salvadoran Government and army. This has given them a bias regarding the Salvadoran situation. The truth is, it is the Salvadoran Christian Democrats who have involved COPEI.

Today COPEI doesn't know how to become free of this involvement, and it is certainly affecting their domestic policy. COPEI will find itself seriously affected in its electoral campaign in Venezuela.

[Question] The magnitude of the Salvadoran conflict often allows economic analysis of the country's situation to be overlooked. Could you give us an outline of this situation?

[Answer] Speaking in general terms, the country's economy is reaching a point we could call bankruptcy, created by the political situation and the war. That is to say, the economic crisis hasn't been created by the status of the country's economic development. On the contrary, it has been caused by the political situation and the existing war. At this time the economic situation is such that agricultural production, for example, which is the source of foreign currency for the country, is being reduced. This also reduces the foreign currency income.

For example, sugarcane plantations are located on our war fronts. There, practically 30 percent of the planting has been paralyzed by this situation. Cotton planting is down 40 percent, and a similar situation exists with coffee. Neglect of coffee plantations and the lack of investments or economic incentives has reduced production for 1981 and 1982 to 50 percent. This outlines a situation in which economic contradictions in agricultural production, unemployment and lower foreign currency incomes have not allowed the state to collect revenue to finance its services, which are now being financed with loans.

These loans, which are really giving oxygen to the economy, loans (?obtained) from international banks for businessmen, are now serving to maintain a survival economy. In this respect Salvadoran businessmen are maintaining the economy at a bare survival level: That is to say, they have made a policy estimate and they have reduced economic development to such a point that it will not allow bankruptcy but neither will it promote development. This means the paralysis of economic development.

There are factors which have affected the economy, such as our sabotage of the electric power system, which can be repaired. These actions have also meant a harsh blow to the economy, which has decreased its power production and has forced prices up. This unleashes a total economic crisis, created by the war, which cannot continue at this level. This is why we say it is approaching bankruptcy, because they estimated that the political situation would be solved by November and that they could recuperate starting in March 1982.

They made their estimates of economic loss on the basis of being able to reactivate the economy starting after the elections. That is to say, they are linking the electoral problem to the economic. They believe that after the elections there may be a political climate to wage an economic recuperation campaign. This is their plan, and here the economic aspect is linked to the political aspect of the war.

[Question] Commander, what does the FMLN think about the U.S. military project drafted for El Salvador, as U.S. officials have said?

[Answer] This obviously proves that the United States designs Savadoran policies and it shows once again that the United States is supporting this dictatorship and is drafting Salvadoran Government policy. This shows the world that the problem of the Salvadoran situation will continue to be brutality, if the United States continues its presence in El Salvador. What really matters is that the United States should withdraw from El Salvador. This is the political problem now.

[Question] Is there any possibility of this, and what would happen if the United States and the junta succeeded in their interventionist plans?

[Answer] Last Thursday Ender said that elections in El Salvador are a political solution for the country. The truth is that if elections are held, only they will participate. The United States has already drafted a plan demanding that elections be held even if war fronts continue. That is to say that we believe that elections can be held as a political event promoted by the enemy, in spite of the war. It seems to us that this is not the first time that elections have been held in wartime. However, one cannot conceive of elections which will not have any validity. They will not grant the Democratic-Christian junta a democratic label. They want to turn elections into another political step which will be only a spent political cartridge and will not have any real effects on national politics. This will not change anything. The junta does not have popular support or social backing.

[Question] Even if the junta does not make any military advances, do you believe that elections will be held?

[Answer] This places them in a dilemma. They are starting from the point that they will begin elections following a new military victory. If they do not obtain a military victory, they will see themselves compelled to carry out the final fascist coup to confront political failure.

TALK OF NEGOTIATIONS LEFTIST PROPAGANDA 'GIMMICK'

PA232246 San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish 1847 GMT 22 Jul 81

[Station commentary: "The Ultraleftist Groups Insist on Negotiation"]

[Text] The various ultraleftist groups that spread their propaganda abroad have continued insisting through the media that the solution to eh Salvadoran crisis can be found either through negotiations or a mediation. There is no doubt that with each passing day, those groups, which have waged a very expensive campaign to discredit both El Salvador and its revolutionary government, are gradually realizing that we Salvadorans are convinced that the elections represent the democratic solution to our current problems.

Both the revolutionary government junta and the armed forces have repeatedly stated that the statements covering both negotiations and mediation represent tricks, gimmicks, and maneuvers by the extreme left in an effort to gain time for their prolonged war. But although sectors that echo the socialist groups' propaganda still exist abroad, the truth is that the belief that the election represents a peaceful solution to the crisis is gradually spreading. This is why it is important to understand the effort that all of the country's forces must make not only to contribute to the national economic reactivition but also to futher the electoral process already underway, with the promulgation of the temporary law on the organization and registration of political parties.

The elections announced for next year are guaranteed by the armed forces. In addition, impartial observers will come to see how honest the elections will be.

It is for this reason, and due to the people's clamor for peace, that those dissonant voices which still dream about making political profits in the struggle for power should realize that the Salvadoran people have already chosen the path to be followed. The armed forces, meanwhile, have continued protecting and offering security to the Salvadoran family, its patriotic goal always being to prevent our country from falling into the claws of international communism.

POPULAR ORIENTATION PARTY ASKS FOR REGISTRATION

PA221532 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 20 Jul 81 p 1

[Excerpt] The Popular Orientation Party, POP, today asked the Central Electoral Council to authorize its registration. For this purpose it asked that a 1979 resolution rejecting its registration be repealed. POP spokesmen said the party is making the request "due to its desire to contribute to the opening of democracy for the solution of the great national problems."

VENCEREMOS WARNS AGAINST FOREIGN INTERVENTION

PA231257 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 23 Jul 81

[Text] Fully convinced of the people's victory, Radio Venceremos, official organ of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front, FMLN, starts its transmission at this time exhorting all peoples of the world to close ranks against an imperialist intervention in El Salvador. There are unmistakable signs that the Reagan administration is preparing with its puppet regimes in the area an attack against the Salvadoran people who, fighting against 50 years of military dictatorships, are on the verge of a popular victory.

We call on the unions, political parties, universities, personalities, and solidarity committees throughout the world to close ranks and be prepared for a general mobilization to stop imperialist intervention in Central America.

The FMLN reiterates its decision to fight foreign intervention and, at the same time, orders the members of the revolutionary army, the militias and the Salvadoran people in general to remain alert in the event of any foreign aggression against our territory and to defend our fatherland and our triumphant process. Salvadoran, be on the alert!

REPORTAGE ON CONTINUING ARMY, GUERRILLA CLASHES

Attack on Jocoaitique Repelled

PA222145 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 20 Jul 81 p 28

[Excerpt] Over 100 heavily armed extremists attacked Jocoaitique, in Morazan Department, climaxing a series of harassments last weekend with the intention of taking the town, security corps spokesmen said today.

The extremists began the attack with sniper fire from various spots around the town while they waited for reinforcements from a guerrilla camp in the region. After the first shots were heard, security and civil defense forces rallied and immediately repelled the attack in a battle which lasted about half an hour. Finally the extremists suspended the attack and fled into the neighboring hills.

Electric Towers Blown Up

PA221505 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 21 Jul 81

[War bulletin from the Francisco Sanchez Southeastern Front; no date given--read by announcer]

[Text] At 2300 on Friday, 16 July, a militia squad of the Francisco Sanchez Southeastern Front set fire to and blew up an electric power station located 100 meters from the detour to San Francisco Javier [words indistinct], Usulutan Department.

On Sunday, 19 July, a squad of militamen and one of combatants from the southeastern front blew up a high-voltage electric tower in [word indistinct], Coyolito canton, Usulutan Department. The tower was completely demolished.

United to fight until final victory. Revolution or death, we will win.

Medical Equipment Confiscated

PA221725 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 21 Jul 81 pp 1, 36

[Excerpts] The army has confiscated more than 20,000 colones worth of medical equipment from terrorist groups that were trying to take it to subversive camps in northeastern El Salvador, military sources have reported.

Patrols of the Cuscatlan Departmental Command, headquartered in Cojutepeque, established a checkpoint to search suspicious vehicles on the road to Oratorio de Concepcion on Saturday afternoon.

Reports indicate that at 1700, they saw one white and one green double-cabin pickup truck approaching the checkpoint, which suddenly made U-turns and turned back.

During the pursuit, one of the terrorists escaped but three of them, including a woman, were arrested.

Among the articles found, the newsmen were able to view material to manufacture bombs such as time-fuses, chlorate, sulphur, electronic switches to detonate bombs, food, women's underwear, ropes, lime, medical equipment, medicine, sutures, tools, and some containers with a red liquid marked "human blood with CPD." There were also sterile gloves, bandages, serum syringes, blood typing plates, surgical equipment and so forth.

According to the reports, the subversives who were captured disclosed that all these articles were being taken to guerrilla camps in Guazapa Hill on the El Guayabal road, El Salitre.

In view of this, we were told that it is believed that the terrorist groups are facing problems in maintaining supplies of weapons, food and medicine.

The same sources said that during a military operation some 10 days ago by forces of the same garrison in Azacualpa Hill near the town of the same name, north of Sonsuntepeque, Cabanas Department, they found a large amount of medicine and medical equipment which probably belonged to the guerrillas in caves. They found empty plastic bags which had contained serum, scalpels, in other words, all necessary surgical equipment, an artificial lung machine and an electrocardiovascular machine to check blood pressure. They also found a large amount of analgesics and antibiotics and hydrogen and oxygen tanks. The sources said that this equipment could only be used by well-trained personnel.

The sources added that the captured terrorists are providing very valuable information on the location of several camps in the zone, and investigations are being undertaken to locate and dismantle them.

OFFICIALS ACCUSED OF ORGANIZING CRIMINAL GANG

PA230010 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 20 Jul 81 p 1

[Text] First penal judge Jorge Ernesto Cruz Quintero has ordered the provisional arrest in Nuevo Tepetitan of the municipal mayor, the local commander and four policemen from military patrols. They are accused of participating in the rape of several women and girls claimed to belong to the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front, local judicial sources said.

Accused are Mayor Lorenzo Ramirez, Commander Gertrudis Noel Escobar Pineda, and policemen Jesus Rivas, Diego Romero, Ulises Portillo and Margarito Torres, who are still at large, according to reports based on investigations began last week.

This case was received with surprise in San Vicente and other towns close to Nuevo Tepetitan, since local authorities responsible for the safety of persons and property are accused of crimes such as housebreaking and rape. Abusing their positions, they took advantage of the wave of violence in the country to commit crimes.

It was unofficially revealed that military authorities are on the track of the accused, who escaped with the weapons entrusted to them to defend the people. Many residents of Viejo and Nuevo Tepetitan said they suspect that some of the crimes blamed on the extremists have been committed by the gang made up of the mayor, the commander and the policemen.

REVOLUTIONARY UNION FEDERATION PRESENTS DEMANDS

PA230235 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 20 Jul 81 p 19

[Paid advertisement issued by the Revolutionary Union Federation, FSR, entitled: "The FSR and Intensification of the Economic Crisis"]

[Excerpts] El Salvador, now going through one of its worst economic, political and social crises, has deteriorated more and more since 1979 because of the constantly decreasing agricultural and industrial production. This has directly affected thousands of workers and peasants and consequently intensified the misery of our people and the injustices against them.

At the same time the growing awareness and action of mass sectors which feel strengthened with the incorporation of the working classes and the government and private workers into our struggle, have created an efficient alternative to solve the crisis.

The economic crisis has considerably increased unemployment in urban and rural areas through the closing of factories as a private sector maneuver to destroy the unions through the bankruptcy of the small and medium-sized concerns unable to compete with the great transnational and oligarchic concerns, etcetera.

In order to maintain this unjust situation, the junta combines action with unpopular laws and decrees intended to legalize the existing misery and abuses against our people. Decree 554, the Economic Stabilization Law, determines that salaries and social benefits cannot be increased for workers because of the country's economic crisis. This denies our people their most cherished aspirations, while the high cost of living increases without control because of greedy businessmen.

In spite of the critical economic situation, intervention by the U.S. Government has been limited to supplying millions of dollars in weapons. These do not solve the hunger, misery and disease affecting us.

The FSR, aware of its role as representative of the working classes and considering the acute crisis affecting our people, presents the following demands:

1. Cancellation of Decrees 544 and 729, the Economic Stabilization Law [as published], because it is detrimental to the workers' interests, depriving them of increases in salaries and social benefits.

2. A general salary increase for government and private workers.

3. Establishment of efficient control over the prices of staple goods and services.

4. Lower public service rates (water, light, telephone).

5. Freezing of urban and interdepartmental transportation rates.

6. Cancellation of Decree 537 increasing the price of stamps, because this contributes to inflation and affects the interests of the small and medium concerns, the middle class and the masses.

7. Establishment of a moratorium freezing the debts of small and medium businessmen and preventing claims against them.

The FSR makes a fraternal appeal to everyone--especially, the working class--to intensify the struggle that will allow us a more just and humane life where there is no misery or exploitation, and where the government really defends and represents the peoples' interests.

Signed FSR, member of the Salvadoran Labor Unity Committee.

GUATEMALA

REPORTAGE ON ARMY, GUERRILLA CONFRONTATIONS

Sixth, Seventh Redoubts Found

PA222029 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1912 GMT 21 Jul 81

[Excerpt] Guatemala, 21 Jul (ACAN-EFE)--The Guatemalan Army reported today, Tuesday, that it has dismantled two leftist guerrilla redoubts, one in the Gerona suburb of the capital and another in the town of Obero in the southern province of Escuintla.

No one was found in these redoubts, and therefore, there were no casualties. Army, medicine, food and antigovernment propaganda were confiscated.

The army reported that this raises to seven the number of redoubts discovered by the government security forces during the last weeks. There was heavy shooting on three occasions, in the Vista Hermosa and El Carmen developments, and in the province of Huehuetenango, leaving a total of 55 antigovernment guerrillas dead.

ORPA, FAR Redoubts

PA222330 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 22 Jul 81

[Summary] Government security forces today dismantled three more guerrilla redoubts: two in Zone 15, Guatemala City, and the other in Obero, Escuintla Department. A hospital operated in one of the hideouts in the capital and a printing shop in the other. Both city sites belonged to the Armed People's Revolutionary Organization, ORPA.

The first was discovered in the El Mastero area of Zone 15, at 1766 7th Street. "However, the house had been abandoned a few hours before police arrived." "Shortly afterwards, in a luxurious house at 1906 19th-B Avenue in Vista Hermosa, another ORPA hideout was found. As in the previous case, the guerrillas escaped before the security forces arrived."

In the second house, police found blueprints of houses of current government officials. "The police found a sketch of the residence of the Garcia Granados family with notes on guards, photos of some ministers and high-ranking officials such as presidential spokesman Carlos Toledo Vielman, were also found." The house is owned by (Victor M. Quintero), who rented it to a man named (Rodolfo Barrios).

Security forces also found a guerrilla arms cache on the El Diamante farm at km 92 on the road to Obero in Escuintla Department. The farm is owned by (Federico Paz Lopez). A large number of weapons, ammunition and grenades were found and four farmworkers were arrested because they didn't report the cache. Police also found Rebel Armed Forces, FAR, propaganda.

Army Truck Mined on Port Road

PA222335 Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo in Spanish 1200 GMT 22 Jul 81

[Text] An exploding Claymore mine killed one soldier and wounded four others, authorities have confirmed, when a military truck was hit at 85 km on the highway from Guatemala City to the port of San Jose in Escuintla Department. Official army sources indicated that the truck was virtually destroyed by the mine, but fortunately most of the 48 soldiers on it were unhurt except for one who was hit by many shrapnel fragments.

Municipal Building Burned

PA232028 Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo in Spanish 1200 GMT 23 Jul 81

[Text] It has been learned that approximately 150 men arrived in the main square in Sacapulas and attacked the [municipal] building with Molotov cocktails. The building burned in about 30 minutes. All police weapons, civil registry records and a large quantity of office supplies, including uniforms for the police and other employees, were completely destroyed.

The authorities said that the attack did not last long and that there were no casualties. The total damage to government property, which was substantial, has not been yet determined.

Meeting Held at Seized Farm

PA232125 Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo in Spanish 1200 GMT 23 Jul 81

[Text] A group of members of the clandestine Armed People's Revolutionary Organization which included several women has attacked the Alabama farm in the [words indistinct] San Marcos and held a political meeting after cutting telegraph lines and causing other damage.

It was officially reported that the security corps began a search for the guerrillas immediately after the attack. The results of the search have been negative, according to reports.

800 Guerrillas' Names Found

PA240311 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1802 GMT 23 Jul 81

[Text] Guatemala, 23 Jul (ACAN-EFE)--The Guatemalan security forces reported today that they have learned the names of 800 leftist guerrillas. These names were obtained following the discovery of the general files of antigovernment organizations that operate in that country.

It was indicated that lists of names of militants from these guerrilla groups were found during the dismantling of an antigovernment redoubt in the "Vista Hermosa" suburb in the eastern metropolitan area.

According to official reports, the combined army-police forces have dismantled nine guerrilla centers in the last 15 days. Heavy shooting was reported on three occasions, two in the capital city and one in the northern province of Huehuetenango, leaving a total of 55 guerrillas dead.

It was also reported today that many of the persons whose names appear on these lists are out of the country, and that an investigation is being made of the names that were found in the files.

The names, photographs, and addresses of approximately 200 government officials were in the files found by the government forces.

Maps of different areas of the country, and plans for the future activities of the guerrilla groups were also found.

Government forces were sent to the interior of the country in search of the guerrilla group that attacked the police station in Sacapulas in the northern province of Quiche.

Last weekend, the antigovernment forces dynamited the governor's office in Santa Cruz del Quiche, and the municipal house of Chichicastenango in the northwestern area of the country.

ARMY SOURCE REPORTS GROWING GUERRILLA DESERTIONS

PA231920 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 1700 GMT 22 Jul 81

[Text] The army has been protecting deserters from clandestine groups, a spokesman has reported. Desertions from the clandestine groups have noticeably increased lately. Therefore, the army is protecting those who have opened their eyes and realized that they are only being used, said Col Jaime Rabanales Reyes, chief of the Defense Ministry's public relations section.

A large number of Guatemalans who were recruited by guerrillas promising to pay them salaries that never materialized and who were later coerced and threatened by the guerrillas when they demanded compliance with the offers have opted to return to law and order, the military spokesman said.

HONDURAS

PHOTOS OF SALVADORAN HELICOPTERS PUBLISHED

PA240316 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1624 GMT 22 Jul 81

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 22 Jul (ACAN-EFE)--The local newspaper TIEMPO today published photographs of Salvadoran helicopters and soldiers patrolling the area of La Canada on the Honduras-El Salvador border.

The pictures were taken when the helicopters of the Salvadoran Air Force were landing in La Canada to pick up dead and injured soldiers, "some 100" of them, according to what the peasants told the paper.

TIEMPO also published photographs which show groups of Salvadoran soldiers walking on the road which links the Honduran municipalities of La Virtud and Valladolid, which are very close to the border.

The Salvadoran Armed Forces have repeatedly denied that their soldiers have carried out antiguerrilla operations in the area. The public relations office of the Honduran Armed Forces, for its part, reported that an investigation is underway, but no official report can be made yet.

According to area residents, the Salvadoran soldiers managed to dislodge the guerrilla groups from La Canada, an area which is under OAS custody and where neither Salvadoran nor Honduran forces are supposed to enter.

The newspaper TIEMPO also charges that Honduran peasant Luis Alonzo Monge was taken away after being accused of helping the Salvadoran guerrillas. Monge's wife, Juana Domingo Menjivar, told TIEMPO: "My husband is not Salvadoran, as the military says. He is Honduran and he has his birth certificate and other documents, as well as ID cards from Caritas and the Emergency and National Development Committee [Comite de Emergencia y Desarrollo Nacional--CEDEN], but they couldn't care less."

APPEAL TO PRESIDENT FOR PROTECTION FROM MILITARY

PA221536 Tegucigalpa Radio America in Spanish 1145 GMT 21 Jul 81

[Letter to President Policarpo Paz Garcia from Agustina Rodriguez, not further identified--read by announcer]

[Text] This letter is to inform President Gen Policarpo Paz Garcia that his great desire to establish freedom for Hondurans is not being fulfilled since his subordinates are doing just the opposite.

A few days ago, some soldiers arrived at the village of Silisgualagua, in Guinope jurisdiction, El Paraiso Department. They threatened the residents, particularly those who are members of the Liberal Party. They searched homes and belongings. They were supposedly looking for weapons. They even confiscated the work machetes from these poor hard-working people.

We ask the president fo fulfill his desire to give freedom to the Honduran peasants, who deserve full respect. We want to have confidence in the president and we want to view him as a hero of all just causes.

Respectfully yours, Agustina Rodriguez

LIBERALS ACCUSED OF EXCLUSING PNH FROM ELECTIONS

PA222355 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras in Spanish 1145 GMT 22 Jul 81

[Text] According to the newspaper LA TRIBUNA, Nicolas Cruz Torres has charged that the Liberal Party of Honduras (PLH) intends to leave 120,000 electors out of the electoral census in order to win an absolute majority. The leadership of the National Party of Honduras [PNH] charged yesterday that the PLH is quietly preparing the necessary mechanisms to exclude 120,000 people from the national electoral census.

More specifically, Cruz, who is an officer of the PNH board, told LA TRIBUNA yesterday that this had been stated by the same Ubodoro Arriaga Iraeta who is president of the National Electoral Tribunal. In a private comment typical of him, Arriaga said the number of people to be excluded totals the figure mentioned.

The avowed purpose of a motion filed with the National Electoral Tribunal by Arriaga, who is a PLH member, is to exclude 65,000 Hondurans from the census. But the actual intention is to eliminate over 120,000 voters from the electoral register, Cruz noted.

LA TRIBUNA adds that Cruz feels the intention is to garner an absolute liberal majority in the coming legislature. To do so, PNH members must be left out of the census. Cruz said the plans include leaving out the deputies of the National Innovation and Unity Party, the Christian Democatic Party and the Honduran Patriotic Front, as well as independent candidates who might tip the scale in congress.

The newspaper asked Cruz the basis for his charge and how the PNH leadership had learned that PNH members would be left out of the census. His answer was: We have investigated at the courts the names of the lawyers handling these matters and it so happens that they are the same ones entrusted with this work. [as heard] In addition, these lawyers keep copies of the applications filed with the courts.

We have also verified that massive exclusions are taking place in departments which are traditionally carried by the PNH, such as Lempira, Ocotepeque, Valle and Choluteca.

U.S. FIRMS ACCUSED OF WITHHOLDING OIL INFORMATION

PA222355 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras in Spanish 1145 GMT 22 Jul 81

[Excerpts] In a statement to the local press, and more particularly in a noteworthy report published by the daily newspaper EL HERALDO, the natural resources minister has accused international firms--particularly U.S. firms, which have obtained concessions to engage in prospecting, exploration and research work [in Honduras] by drilling and other geological research, of concealing information concerning the tests they have made on our continental shelf, and inland.

We think his statement involves a serious charge against the concessionaries because he said that the government has decided that Honduran technicians will participate from now on in exploration work to keep the companies from submitting false reports.

The way we interpret it, the minister raised the same issue again when he said that the Japanese are showing interest in exploring for oil, adding that Mexico became a major oil producer and exporter after the Japanese arrived and engaged in prospecting work because U.S. companies had previously reported there was no oil in commercial quantities.

The minister must be more specific and objective, because his statement leaves no doubt that the North American companies have been cheating and misinforming the Honduran Government and people unless, as noted by those who have discussed his statement, there is great interest in rescinding the contracts of the U.S. companies or a desire to grant the concession to only one of them and to the Japanese.

We think we reflect the intense but still unexpressed desire of the Honduran people to be told the truth. The natural resources minister is obliged to do so in this case.

NICARAGUA

20 JUL NEWS CONFERENCE OF HIGH-RANKING OFFICIALS

PA220430 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0030 GMT 21 Jul 81

[News conference given on 20 July by Daniel Ortega Saavedra, coordinator of the governing junta of National Reconstruction, Dr Sergio Ramirez Mercado, member of the governing junta; Father Miguel d'Escoto Brockman, minister of foreign relations; Dr Ernesto Castillo, minister of justice; and Jaime Wheelock Roman, minister of agricultural development and agrarian reform; no place given--recorded]

[Text] [Announcer] Commander Daniel Ortega Saavedra will first make an introductory statement to this news conference.

[Ortega] We want to greet reporters visiting this country on the 2d anniversary of the victory of the revolution and the 20th anniversary of the founding of the Sandinist front, and to reiterate the determination of the Nicaraguan people to make their revolution. Yesterday we announced a number of measures adopted to strengthen this revolutionary process. We know there was considerable expectation in the country and abroad and a lot of speculation as to what would be said. But as we explained yesterday, all the measures adopted were designed to strengthen the revolutionary process--which means popular democracy, mixed economy, political pluralism and freedom of the press. We are, then, at your disposal to answer your questions.

[Question] Stephen [name indistinct], of the Boston GLOBE newspaper of the United States. My question is particularly directed to Father d'Escoto. After talks between the government and the Catholic hierarchy in this country, it seems several problems were settled. Can you tell us something about the present relations between the Catholic hierarchy and the priests who still remain in the government?

[D'Escoto] We are in perfect communion with the Church and the hierarchy here in Nicaragua. After a fraternal and sincere dialogue with the bishops of Nicaragua, it was decided to grant us an exception from the ecclesiastic law so that we may continue within the process, working for our people in compliance with our vocation for service.

[Question] Abraham Garcia Ibarra of Television Channel 13 in Mexico. My question is twofold. First, referring to the popular democracy mentioned by Commander Ortega, it seems some political groups are trying to twist the arm of the revolutionary government, allegedly because it has not complied with one of the commitments of the San Jose Declaration concerning the legalization of the new government through elections. That would be my first question. Second, what is the status of the cays at this time?

[Ramirez] Concerning the first question, the revolutionary government on 23 August 1980 made a clear statement on the electoral matter, and the governing junta on the occasion issued a decree fixing the opening of an electoral process in Nicaragua for the year 1985. This has not changed in any way. We must say, however, that the electoral issue in Nicaragua is something we cannot reduce to the letter of any law, as it has to do with the very dynamic of the revolution, expressed by various actions--one being that which you had the opportunity of witnessing yesterday.

Despite the fact that the rightwing here had orchestrated a national and international campaign to portray the impression that the revolution had lost prestige and support among the masses and that the Sandinist front was nothing but an armed minority, as the rightist spokesmen claim, the people themselves gave evidence that it is exactly the opposite. This government is based on authentic popular support which, in addition to being massive, is also politically conscientious.

Yesterday, the people accepted the measures of the revolutionary government with profound attention and political understanding, which has become more and more evident after 2 years of revolution. This to us constitutes true popular democracy. We are, therefore, determined to conduct an electoral process in Nicaragua, but keeping in mind at all times the dynamic of the process, the support enjoyed by the Sandinist front and the direction the people want for the revolutionary process. It would be absurd to think that an electoral process here should serve to legalize the power of a minority which has nothing to do with the popular dynamic.

[D'Escoto] As to the second question, concerning the problem of the cays, I believe you are aware that a few months after the revolutionary victory, and in our desire to fulfill the sacred duty of defending the territorial integrity of our fatherland, we were compelled to declare null and void the Barcenas-Meneses-Esguerra Treaty, by virtue of which the United States, as the occupying nation, forced Nicaragua to yield part of its territory to Colombia. I want to reveal that the Colombian editorialists of the times, as can be confirmed by a document published by the Colombian Congress 3 weeks ago, pointed out that Nicaragua was a country totally controlled by the North Americans. Therefore, it was in no condition to enter into a treaty expressing the people's sovereign right and will.

We declared the treaty null and void because it had been enforced through coercion and lack of consent. In no way do we want this to be manipulated in the press as an anti-Colombian sentiment, because that is far from the truth. We have great affection for the great Colombian people and a government with which we have the best of relations.

Only a few weeks ago we had the opportunity to meet the new foreign minister, Carlos Lemos Simonds, and we must say we were greatly impressed by him, and we have reason to believe that he understood the true motive for our position concerning our statement that the treaty was null and void. The matter of the cays is related to this, but the real problem there is with the United States.

We have opposed the ratification of the Saccio-Vasquez Carrizosa Treaty, which was signed in 1972 and hasn't yet been ratified, because it is not simply a matter of the U.S. withdrawing a claim to a territory that does not belong to it.

If it were that simple, we would obviously not be concerned. However, under the Saccio-Vasquez Carrizosa Treaty, the United States receives navigation and fishing rights from Colombia in exchange for withdrawing its claim. This implies that the United States recognizes Colombian rights over territory that belongs to us.

I reiterate that it is a matter of great importance, because if we take an overall look at the problem, we are talking about over 80,000 square km of national territory on our continental shelf in the Atlantic Ocean.

[Announcer] We wish to announce that Jaime Wheelock Roman, Commander of the Revolution and minister of agricultural development and agrarian reform, has joined those participating in the conference.

[Question] Margarita Cubillos of CROMOS Magazine, Bogota, Colombia. Father d'Escoto, just last week my magazine published by interview with former foreign minister Alfredo Vasquez Carrizosa during which he made emphatic remarks about the cays. The former foreign minister said, and I quote: The United States has no title to the cays. Specifically he said that the Vasquez-Esguerra [as heard] Treaty left the issue of the cays pending because of a dispute existing between Colombia and the United States. Former foreign minister Vasquez Carrizosa said, and I quote: There was no such dispute. At no time was there any dispute and the United States has no rights over the cays. Would this clarify the Nicaraguan aspiration to such rights?

[?D'Escotso] The Barcenas Meneses-Esguerra Treaty excluded the problem of the cays. However, 3 months after that treaty was ratified, the United States signed a treaty with Colombia. I agree that the United States has no title to the cays, but neither does Colombia. However, both of them sought title because in 1856, the United States issued a guano law stating that whenever an American found guano on any abandoned cay or on an island with few inhabitants, the American had the right to place the American flag there and declare it American territory.

Of course, that is an international law recognized only by the United States. It has no validity. The United States is now saying that it is desisting from its claim to that territory.

What former foreign minister Vasquez Carrizosa says is correct. Legally, under the law, the United States has no rights to those cays. Neither does Colombia, just as it has no rights to the islands of San Andres and Providencia.

[Question] [name indistinct], of EL DIARIO DE CARACAS. In his comments yesterday, Commander Ortega gave a rather complete report on U.S.-Nicaraguan relations since the beginning of the Reagan administration. However, I think that some things need to be clarified. When the Reagan administration came to power, an attempt was made through the international media to give the impression that the people's insurrections in Central America and the popular triumph in Nicaragua were transferring the tensions of the confrontation between the superpowers to the Caribbean. This is closely related to the implementation of the Mini-Marshall Plan. That plan has involved Mexico, Canada and Venezuela in a number of measures designed to resolve the problems of U.S. influence in the Caribbean. To what extent does this Mini-Marshall Plan affect the Central American revolutionary processes, specifically the ongoing process in Nicaragua?

[?Ortega] [words indistinct] We are clear today in that the U.S. position pointing up tensions in Central America is a justification of its military and political presence in Central America. This is how the United States tries to justify its open support of arms and advisers to the Salvadoran Army as well as its economic support to the Salvadoran junta.

Following these U.S. demonstrations of force and all sorts of threats against the Nicaraguan revolution, the United States launched a campaign against Nicaragua. It sent that famous mission to Europe in an attempt to prove that Nicaragua had been responsible for the January uprising in El Salvador and that Nicaragua was the bridge for the arms originating in the USSR, Vietnam and so forth. As we all know, that mission also failed. It did not find the support it had expected to find among the European countries. We think that we must take a serious position regarding U.S. policy.

An economic aid plan is now being mentioned. This economic plan comes at a time when Mexico and Venezuela are trying to give economic support to the Central American and Caribbean area.

The United States now appears to be against the economic aid plan being promoted by Mexico and Venezuela. The U.S. plan is trying to omit some countries such as Cuba, Grenada and Nicaragua. The United States is therefore trying to attack these countries to strengthen [words indistinct] positions.

On the other hand, the Mexican position announced after the meeting of Presidents Lopez Portillo and Reagan has been clear enough. Mexico has noted that economic aid must be given without conditions and that it must benefit all Central American and Caribbean countries.

We therefore believe that any U.S. effort to implement an economic aid plan aimed at isolating some of the area's countries is doomed to failure because it will not have the support of the other countries that will participate in this plan. Besides, such plans have always been doomed to failure. Let us recall the U.S. effort to isolate Cuba in the sixties when it tried to implement in Latin America that famous plan which did not achieve its objective.

[Question] Maria Luisa Castelland, LA TRIBUNA of Honduras. Officials of Honduras and Nicaragua met in Guasaule recently. They agreed to hold a meeting of their defense and foreign ministers. I would like to know when these two meetings will be held and what the Nicaraguan Government will request from the Honduran Government during these meetings.

[Ortega] The meeting was held within the framework of the anniversity of the revolution. We were favored with the presence of General Chinchilla and Foreign Minister Elvir Sierra who have been meeting with our foreign minister and our top military authorities. This meeting was proposed at the Guasaule meeting to seek practical ways to prevent the activities of counterrevolutionary bands that operate from Honduran territory. Among other things, we discussed the possibility of carrying out joint patrol efforts in the border area, establishing zones of vigilance at a specific distance from the border line, in other words, deepening the defense lines of each country a little bit in order to avoid confusion and a cross-fire because the counterrevolutionary bands are operating right between the two lines. Therefore, we are trying to take practical steps to solve this serious problem: The activity of these armed bands from Honduran territory. Do you want to add anything?

[D'Escoto] I want to say that the foreign ministers meeting was held 3 days after the Guasaule meeting. We met in Venezula. We held a second meeting yesterday. The Nicaraguan deputy foreign minister will go to Honduras this week and then I will go to Honduras next week where I will also meet with Foreign Minister Elvir Sierra again. The meeting of defense ministers, that is that of Col Mario Flores Theresin and Commander of the Revolution Humberto Ortega Saavedra, will also be held shortly. The date will be established in my upcoming meeting with the Honduran foreign minister in Honduras, but I must say that it will be held shortly.

[Question] I am John Walsh, a U.S. newsman [words indistinct]: I have a question about the Indians on the Pacific Coast. To the Nicaraguan people the struggle of the economic classes have involved great [work indistinct] for workers and peasants. Regarding the struggle of social classes, there have been great achievements for women in free Nicaragua. However, the Indians have not gained much in the racial class struggle. After 2 years, the heroic Indian people of Monimbo, Sutiava and other communities do not have their own land, culture, their own representatives in the State Council nor their own (?infrastructure) and organization to exercise the rights of the Indians. The 19 July victory was only a victory for the descendants of the Spanish conquerors Davila and Saavedra and not for the descendants of the Indian chiefs Diriangen and Nicarao.

[Words indistinct] The general of free men [referring to Augusto Cesar Sandino] like Augusto Calderon [name as heard], who was born in Niquinohomo from the oppressed womb of an unwed Indian woman, was always proud of his Indian origins. Sandino had a thorough knowledge of the Indian's participation in the anticolonialist struggle in Nicaragua--a struggle that lasted 460 years. Right now on the Pacific Coast, the original owners of the land, the Indians of Monimbo, Sutiava, Sebaco, Juigalpa, Muy Muy, Somoto, Jinotega, [name indistinct], Matagalpa, (Cusmata) and Telpaneca have hoped that finally with the FSLN victory the era of the conquest has ended. My question is simply: How can the Government of National Reconstruction help the Indians recover their land and their special rights and how does the government respect the Indians' struggle for self-determination?

[Unidentified government leader] We wanted to explain [words indistinct] the lengthy and historical way in which you presented the problem. The Indian communities in Nicaragua were dissolved. They were dissolved from what they were when the Spaniards arrived. This was not only due to the colonization, the conquest and the destruction of the Spanish empire in Nicaragua but also because during their years of independent life, the conservative and the liberal governments started to convert the Indian communities into peasant or craft communities. Therefore, aside from the Miskito, Sumo and Rama communities which were not affected by Spanish colonization and the actions of any of the previous governments, we cannot speak of Indian communities in Nicaragua. We may speak of Nicaraguan craftsmen or small, poor peasants along the Pacific area. But we do have the Sumo, Rama and Miskito people, who have linguistic, anthropolitical and economic ties.

Then, the Agrarian Reform Law establishes a special decision through which the revolutionary government, in recognizing this situation which we have inherited, establishes the Miskito, Sumo and Rama communities' right to have access to enough land to solve their social problems. The government also recognizes their right over natural resources which they have been claiming, such as the forest resources. The law says:

Article 31: The state will be able to assign the necessary land so that the Miskito, Sumo and Rama communities can work their land individually or collectively, so that they can benefit from their natural resources, improve their standard of living and contribute to the social and economic development of the Nicaraguan nation. Therefore, the communities which may have been left out, mainly in the Pacific area, as well as the poor or landless peasants, are being benefitted and will be granted a land title if they do not have land and are interested in having some. The Indian communities which are still functioning as such are truly neighborhood directorates [directivas barriales] [passage indistinct].

We have been considering this problem since the beginning of the revolution. Before the revolutionary forces even reached Managua, the first land concession was made to the Indian community of Leon. It was made to the people of Sutiava who have very important Indian roots. Moreover, the [name indistinct] program is very well known. It was for the Monimbo community. The revolutionary government's effort to integrate the Sumo, Miskito and Rama people, who were completely isolated and poor until the victory of the revolution, is also known.

[Question] [Name indistinct] I would like to ask Commander Ortega about the composition of the government-Episcopal committee announced last week. I would like to know a little more about its structure.

[Ortega] Those who fail to understand the revolutionary process here in Nicaragua have tried to confront the Episcopal Conference and the revolution. We find that this negative effort has been stopped by the positive attitude of the government, the front's national leadership and the bishops. With that same spirit we met with the bishops last week and agreed on the formation of a permanent committee to establish closer communication between the Episcopal Conference and the Revolutionary Government that would propitiate the discussion and solution of problems observed by both parties.

In fact, the Episcopal Conference has already informed us that the committee apointed by the bishops includes Monsignor Miguel Obando y Bravo, Monsignor Lopez Victoria, bishop of Granada, and Monsignor Lopez Ardon, Bishop of Esteli. This committee will maintain direct contact with the junta of the Government of National Reconstruction in order to discuss whatever problems may arise.

[Question] Aurelio Ramos, of EXCELSIOR, Mexico. At the meeting of the foreign ministers of Venezuela, Mexico, Canada and the United States in the Bahamas a few days ago, the possibility remained open that the reactionary regimes receiving economic aid could at any time also request military aid. Could you say to what extent this possibility of obtaining arms threatens the Nicaraguan revolution, and what are the real possibilities of this revolution's survival?

[Ramirez] We have often said that one of the foundations of Nicaraguan foreign policy is that Central America and the Caribbean area should be preserved as a zone of peace in the world; that we do not want Central America to be turned into an area of tensions and conflict. One of the fundamental elements in achieving this zone of peace and security is to discontinue the disproportionate supply of arms to Central American armies, as the U.S. Government has been doing since the advent of the Reagan administration because the birth of a popular revolutionary process, in Nicaragua, supported by the great majorities in Nicaragua, has apparently upset the area politically and placed the minorities exercising power in other parts of this area on the alert to defend their interests.

This leads some armies and oligarchic groups to demand more arms from the Reagan administration to snuff out the movements of popular unrest in the area and to assume and guarantee a threatening attitude toward the Nicaraguan revolution. Therefore, to the degree that other Central American regimes hostile to the Nicaraguan revolutionary process continue to receive arms, helicopters, planes, military assistance and the U.S. budget continues to assign huge funds to strengthening the military might of these countries, we will necessarily have to find some means of equilibrium. It would be naive on our part to think that our national security can be guaranteed without reinforcing our national defense.

Thus, a higher or lower level of national defense on our part will depend on U.S. policy toward the Central American isthmus. If the United States brings in an instrument of detente, substantially reduces military assistance in the area, and avoids, in addition, the training and arming on U.S. territory and other Central American sites of Somozist bands who plan to invade Nicaragua, then we would also change the nature of our defense mechanism. Meanwhile, our first duty is to strengthen our national defense, since it also constitutes the defense of our revolutionary process.

[Question] Jack Curtis, of ABC News. My question is directed to Father d'Escoto and I wish he would answer in English because we have two U.S. television networks recording this. Do you really believe the U.S. Government is now trying to destabilize the Sandinist regime in Nicaragua and, if you do, how is Nicaragua going to respond?

[D'Escoto] [Repeats question in Spanish, then replies in English] I would like to say that I have no doubt that people who are now in the U.S. administration were sincere when they, even prior to coming to power, manifested their desire to do everything to revert the process of the Nicaraguan revolution. Right in the very platform of the Republican Party you find a paragraph dedicated to the Nicaraguan revolution. They start out by lamenting the fact that there was a Sandinist triumph in Nicaragua, that they proceed to save...that is, that the Reagan administration would not abandon Nicaragua, that they would continue to work with those groups truly committed to the restoration of democracy in our country.

Now, if that is not a very clear signal of their purpose to intervene, I don't know what could be. There's no doubt that there are great many elements within the administration which at this moment are trying to do what they had done before in other similar circumstances. We have to follow this closely. We have to see how we are monitoring these activities and we'll have to take measures such as the measures that we are beginning to take already, starting yesterday, to counteract the activity of these lackeys of U.S. policy in our country. [repeats answer in Spanish]

[Question indistinct]

[D'Escoto] The newsman is asking if there is something we can do in the sphere of foreign policy to counteract this campaign or policy to destabilize the country that is being carried out from the United States. [D'Escoto begins answering in English] The thing that we must do, internationally, is alert the democratic nations with governments that at the same time have good relations with the United States and have very good relations with Nicaragua. I think the world, at last, must be alerted to what is happening, to how, in a sense, nothing has really changed in the United States. Nothing has really changed, and if anything has changed, it is going back to the years prior even to the New Deal. This is what I think is the first thing that we need to do: To present our case before the international public opinion.

[D'Escoto translates] I have answered him by saying that regarding the international sphere, our first task is to counteract these measures of U.S. policy, to denounce this fact and to do this mainly before those Western countries that are allies and friends of the United States, but are also democratic countries that have good relations and respect our revolution. This is our first task: to denounce these maneuvers and state that the United States has not changed that much and if it has changed in anything, it is that it has taken a step back to the years of Hoover and Coolidge, back to the years when Sandino was fighting. In other words, imperialism has not changed; intervention has not changed. The opportunities and the situations are different and the methods change but it seems that the firm purpose to stop the advance of the peoples struggling for their complete liberation and their right to self-determination has not changed.

[Question] Oscar Leonardo Montalvan of the newspaper LA PRENSA and Radio Catolica. My first questions concern domestic matters: Regarding the confiscations, perhaps I did not understand well or didn't hear right, but I am referring to the confiscations of the Camino de Oriente [name as heard] and the [corporacion] Plaza Espana and also regarding the decree which says that the houses of those have been outside the country for 6 months will be turned over to the state or will be given to the persons residing there. We have received some calls on this. I believe that the citizens want an explanation. I am speaking for them and I am asking you for an answer. Regarding the reorganization of the judicial branch, it seems to me that Dr Tito Castillo spoke about a reform from top to bottom. If I am mistaken about this, please forgive me. My last question is what is the truth about an attack or a clash in the north this morning or yesterday?

[Ortega] Regarding the confiscations, a list of the enterprises and properties which have been affected by the decree was read yesterday. These properties were put under military protection on that same day. This measure is against those who are depleting capital and those who are affecting the economic reactivation process. We have taken this action against this type of attitude and not against persons, names or last names. Regarding the decree on the persons who are absent from the country, this applies to persons who have left the country, remained outside for more than 6 months and are simply living outside the country and receiving money for the rent of houses in dollars or dividends from certain firms in which they are partners. There are cases of people who live in Miami and receive the dividends from companies here in Nicaragua. These dividends are changed into dollars in the black market in our country.

This measure is essentially directed against these types of people. Of course, there are exceptions. There are people who had have lived outside Nicaragua for a long time before the victory, let us say, before September 1978 when extensive capital depletion began in our country. These people will have to clarify their situation. There are other clear cases of people who were calm when Somoza was in power. They were reinvesting during Somoza's time but after the revolution they left the country. They have houses here and they rent or try to sell them in dollars. They are also depleting the capital of their companies and farms. The decree is directed against these people.

You were asking about attacks on the northern border. We all know that there is a situation of permanent tension in the border area due to the activity of the armed gangs of the Somozist guardsmen. There had been much speculation around the 19 July anniversary. It was said that there would be a great military offensive in Nicaragua, that they would seize towns and that a number of criminal actions would be carried out in Managua. It is normal that there would be rumors when there is continuous armed counterrevolutionary activity and there are countries such as the United States which encourage this type of counter-revolutionary activity.

In answer to the specific question about whether a confrontation has occurred, we will have to wait for confirmation of this information because as we all know this type of information is subject to confirmation by the Defense and Interior Ministries.

[Castillo] Regarding the judicial branch reforms, the government junta has approved the recommendations issued by the seminar sponsored by the Supreme Court so that there will be a true reform of the administration of justice. This reform is essentially based on the guidance of the government junta. That is, it seeks to guarantee the effective participation of the people in the administration of justice. We are working on this.

[Question] Richard (Budro) of AP. I would like to ask Commander Wheelock how much land and how many peasants have benefited so far from the first phase of the agrarian reform, that is, from the confiscation of land of the Somoza family. Can you estimate how much land and how many peasants will benefit from the agrarian reform decree that was issued yesterday?

[Wheelock] In the application of Decrees Nos 338 and 329 which established the framework of the first agrarian reform action, approximately 2,200 production units were confiscated. These add up to a little over 1 million hectares. In these production units we have organized a management apparatus, essentially a state-managed apparatus, which immediately benefited the peasant population. Approximately 65,000 peasant workers, most of them permanent workers, have benefited from a national production and organization program that first of all includes their participation in the administration of those enterprises. Second, they receive just wages and they benefit from additional health, housing and education programs.

In addition to the benefits of the literacy campaign, the agricultural development ministry and the revolutionary government, through other programs, have been training the peasant workers in various agrotechnical activities. This has unquestionably increased the peasants' level of culture and technology. Schools to teach agricultural methods, mechanics and administration of small enterprises have been opened.

The health programs have been very important. As of May 1981, more than 350,000 cases had been treated. A health center to guarantee basic medical care in each of the production units. More than 1,000 houses have been built for workers. We recently finished one of the first big housing projects.

Independent of this work, we have directed our attention to the promotion and support of small individual production units through the program of PROCAMPO [Directorate for Peasant Promotion] which has been incorporating and helping more than 80,000 small producers, either by giving them land if they don't have any or by giving them technical aid--credits through the national financial system, inputs and so forth. This work is very important because the Nicaraguan revolution found very scattered, primitive and backward peasants who were excluded from all distribution, marketing and social channels in general. Our peasants still face the problem of having marginal lands.

We have now directed this agrarian reform toward making available to the poor landless peasants and cooperatives all idle land over 500 manzanas in the Pacific and over 1,000 manzanas in the rest of the country. For example, this means an estate of 650 manzanas on the Pacific which is either idle, abandoned or not sufficiently exploited as explained in the law. In other words, the law tries to establish limits on the landowners who aren't using the land. It is land, which is a common good of a social nature, that is not being used. This land is to be given to those who due to historic, social, economic and even political factors, were left without land or had their land expropriated. These are people who live from or could live from the land.

Through this measure, we will benefit landless peasants. They make up approximately 25 percent of the population which lives in rural areas. The law also benefits those who have been leasing land, the tenant farmers, the sharecroppers and all those who in some way work the land but have no title to it. This law almost automatically gives the land to those who work it. [Passage indistinct due to brief break in transmission] most of these are extensive properties, a large part of which are idle. If those properties were rationally exploited, there would be enough cattle grazing in those 4 million hectares to supply the entire country and even to export to all of Central America. However, in reality we have large 3,000-5,000 manzana cattle ranches which have only 100 head of cattle.

The rest of the land in the country, approximately 10 million hectares, is agricultural borderland, virgin land, forests and in general, land that can be exploited.

The main provision of the law, that is, the exporpriation of the idle lands, will affect approximately 1,200 landowners of estates over 500 and 1,000 manzanas. We estimate that we will expropriate more or less the same amount that was expropriated initially, that is, around 1 million hectares, (?1.2) million hectares.

Now we also believe that this law will guarantee two things. It will bring about greater production since land that was not producing will now be doing so. Second, it will bring greater calm to the rural areas. Independent of the fact that this will be helping Nicaragua's economic and social development, it will bring stability to the rural areas. In recent months we had reported more than 400 cases of land seizures and interference in the production which had been making rural areas unstable. We now believe that as a result of these measures, these actions will not be justified. It will take a long time to implement these measures. It is not an agrarian reform that is automatic. We have to make a thorough study in each production unit. We have to see if it is in good condition, if the owner can guarantee that he will work the land if he is given aid, if the owners are in the country or if we can find someone who will be responsible for the property. It is a law that has the objective of making sure that all those who have land, who have access to land or who want to have land, will have land and will work it.

[Question] Arturo Gudino of the AGENCIA INDEPENDIENTE DE PRENSA, AIP. My question is addressed to Commander Ortega. It is related to the repercussions of the liberation war that is currently being waged in El Salvador. Events seem to indicate that the U.S. strategy of eliminating the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front and holding elections in March 1982 is not achieving the expected results. This leads to the possibility that the United States might attempt a mass landing of troops in El Salvador. What repercussions would this have on the Sandinist process and what attitude would the Sandinist Front assume in the face of this possibility?

[Ortega] I think that our effort should above all be aimed at preventing such an action. We should also view this possible action as something that would essentially affect the United States because the action would be directed against El Salvador, against the Salvadoran revolution but it is an action that would immediately be actively repudiated by the peoples of Latin America and the world, particularly those of Central America. We say that it would be actively repudiated. Therefore, we don't think that alternative is advisable for the United States. It has to find an alternative that is consistent with the world's situation, with the attitude of the Latin American peoples in the face of this type of aggression and adventure. These are no longer the same [words indistinct].

[Question] Judy Gold of KSAI of the United States. Since anticommunism forms a large part of the propaganda against Nicaragua in my country, I would like to know what Nicaragua's relationship is with the Soviet Union and Cuba.

[Ortega] Nicaragua has very good relations with Cuba. They are very good because even much before the triumph of the Cuban [as heard] revolution, Cuba has been a country that has supported the Nicaraguan people. It has supported the struggle of the Sandinist front. Since the revolutionary victory, Cuba has provided great aid, particularly doctors, teachers, technicians and machinery to help our people and without at any time placing conditions on that aid.

We also have very good relations with the Soviet Union, as we have with other countries of the socialist camp. We have very good relations since Nicaragua has expressed its international policy of seeking not only good, but very good relations with all countries of the world. Nicaragua has the right to have very good relations with the aforementioned countries.

[Question] [name indistinct] of Radio Netherlands. I have two questions. In what way the country's economy in the sense that the bourgeoisie has role control or mass effect and agricultural production? Does Commander Eden Pastora's decision to leave mean the export of the revolution or the support of the peoples' struggle for liberation?

[?Ramirez] Regarding the first question, we think that far from contradicting the mixed economy system on which the revolution's economic process is based, the decisions adopted yesterday strengthens it. As Commander Ortega said yesterday in his speech, this is the moment when the revolutionary government is making the rules of the game clear. The list of firms which were affected by an expropriation decree was read yesterday. This list of firms was not taken out of a hat. It is not an arbitrary list because [words indistinct] even though the government had a legal instrument to do so. We could say that this is a preventive and exemplary measure because we hope that as a result of this measure capital depletion of enterprises in the country will stop. Therefore, we can say that is an exemplary measure to warn that the revolutionary regime will no longer permit any more capital depletion of enterprises. The depletion of capital will no longer go unpunished.

The other measure that also affects private property is the one to which Commander Wheelock already referred. It refers to idle or ineffectively cultivated land. This law will be sent to the State Council tomorrow. The other law referring to persons living outside the country is also a law that tries to impart justice. There are people who live very well abroad on the basis of rents from Nicaragua. They change those cordobas into dollars and thus contribute to the destabilization of our economy by encouraging the black market. Of course, this decree will not affect all the people who have left the country. There are different reasons for leaving the country. It will affect those people who have left the country for political reasons and who have abandoned their property.

Regarding your second question, our National Directorate and our government have been clear regarding Commander Pastora and Commander Valdivia's decision to leave the country to continue the struggle in another country which they have not specified. Our government maintains an official position which has already been made known. The revolution cannot support a decision of this nature, but it respects it. It was a personal decision by the two commanders. They were subsequently discharged from the army ranks as a result of an order of the day of the Sandinist People's Army and the higher command of the Interior Ministry and the government has relieved them [words indiscinct].

24 JUL CEREMONY MARKS 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF FSLN

PA240440 [Editorial Report] Managua Domestic and International Service in Spanish join in network at 0141 GMT on 24 July to carry live coverage from the Ruben Dario Theater in Managua of the ceremony marking the 20th anniversary of the founding of the Sandinist National Liberation Front, FSLN. The announcer notes that "this event is being presided over by the National Directorate of our vanguard and the junta of the Government of National Reconstruction." The announcer adds that also present are the "Sandinist Assembly," not further identified, militants of the FSLN, distinguished members of the FSLN and special guests. No one is listed by name.

At 0145 GMT, Culture Minister Ernesto Cardenal reads an exoerpt of his poem dedicated to the FSLN. Then at 0206 GMT, Edgardo Garcia, secretary general of the Farmworkers' Association, reads the greeting of all the mass organizations to the 20th anniversary of the founding of the FSLN.

At 0212 GMT, the announcer says that several folk groups will sing several songs together to honor the FSLN on its day.

Commander of the Revolution Victor Tirado Lopez starts speaking at 0226 GMT. He begins by noting that it will not be a speech but an historical interpretation of the country. He then proceeds to make an historical summary of events in the world going back to the 19th century. He discusses events in the world throughout those years, including what was happening in Nicaragua. His chronological recollection leads him to the birth of the FSLN and the lessons learned throughout the struggle.

Tirado Lopez concludes by saying: "On this 20th anniversary [words indistinct] the FSLN, we are completely sure that the workers, the peasants, the women, the conscientious businessmen, the students, the professionals and the technicians of the country will continue to close ranks around the revolution and the FSLN. According to the measures announced on the second anniversary of the revolutionary victory at the 19 July Plaza regarding being more austere to prevent squandering, we must be more disciplined to increase productivity, more efficient to increase production and more vigiliant in the respective work centers. The working class and the peasants will demonstrate in practice that they have the same capacity and strength to direct or run any enterprise. Our armed forces will also continue to be firmly united to the people defending the fatherland and the revolution."

He finishes speaking at 0326 GMT. The crowd then sings the FSLN anthem and the live relay ends at 0332 GMT.

BULGARIAN LEADER HAILS FSLN, BONDS WITH PEOPLE

PA231536 Managua International Service in Spanish 0030 GMT 23 Jul 81

[Text] The Sandinist popular revolution is not only an example for Latin America, but for the entire world, said Peko Takov, member of the Bulgarian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo, during his meeting with the members of the political committee of the Sandinist front, Commander Bayardo Arce, Humberto Ortega and Jaime Wheelock.

Speaking in the name of his party, government and people, Takov said that he was impressed by what he saw in Nicaragua, including the half-million people who gathered at the 19 July Plaza and the direct and close relationship between the Nicaraguan people and the Sandinist National Liberation Front.

GDR OFFICIAL IMPORESSED BY 19 JULY CELEBRATIONS

PA231345 Managua International Service in Spanish 0030 GMT 23 Jul 81

[Text] Alois Pisnik, member of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany and the Council of State of the GDR, said in Managua that the relations between Nicaragua and his country are close and friendly. Pisnik described the 19 July celebrations as a most moving event, saying he was impressed by the way the people approved the policy of the Sandinist National Liberation Front and national leaders.

RIGHTISTS TO CONTINUE PARTICIPATING IN FORUM

PA231448 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 23 Jul 81

[Text] The revolution advances and the forum continues. The rightist parties and orgnaizations will continue participating in the forum where the national problems are being discussed. This decision was adopted by representatives of Nicaraguan Democratic Movement, MDN, of the Social Christian Party and of the Nicaraguan Workers Federation, CTN. According to their statement to the press, they will continue participating in the forum until all of them together decide the contrary.

Donald Castillo, of the CTN, was explicit in pointing out the criteria of his organization for continuing in the forum and that the forum must continue. They support the revolutionary process as long as they may be allowed to point out what they consider to be mistakes and express whichever concerns they might have.

On his part the MDN leader, Engineer Alfonso Robelo, said the dissident parties view positively their continued participation in the forum. Robelo said that the prevailing opinion is that we must continue but with caution. He did not explain, however, why they should be cautious.

The truth is that the most recalcitrant circles of the reactionary bourgeoisie are the ones who are scheming against the forum. They have not yet achieved their prupose, however. It is up to the dissident parties and organizations whether or not they will continue participating in the forum. For now the forum continues while the revolution advances.

GOVERNMENT BEGINS RELEASING 200 FORMER SOMOZISTS

PA240406 Mangua International Service in Spanish 0030 GMT 24 Jul 81

[Text] Over 200 persons who participated in the Somozist regime and who had been sentenced to 2 years in prison will be released beginning today and continuing until the end of the month.

The 205 [as received] persons who will be released had been part of the prison rehabilitation program. They worked in the woodworking and tailor shops and helped to pick the cotton harvest, Jose Maria Alvarado, director of the national penitentiary system told the New Nicaragua News Agency.

Some 95 percent of these prisoners learned to read during the national literacy campaign which taught 500,000 Nicaraguans to read and write. Some of these former Somozists had been sentenced by the special courts created following the Sandinist triumph, when they were found guilty of acting as informers of the Somozist regime; while the others, mostly peasants, had been recruited by the National Guard a few months before Somoza's defeat on 19 July 1979.

Alvarado added that the prisoners to be released will join the production effort and that they are not expected to repeat political crimes since during their time in prison they had observed good conduct.

The chief of the national penitentiary system said that out of the 503 prisoners pardoned by the Sandinist regime last December, only 3 have returned to prison, 2 for counterrevolutionary activities and the other for a common crime.

CLASH REPORTED NEAR COSTA RICAN BORDER 22 JUL

PA231826 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 23 Jul 81

[Text] Public Security Minister Arnulfo Carmona Benavides announced yesterday that a serious confrontation took place in Boca de Sarapiqui. According to the minister, the incident occurred on Nicaraguan territory. The rural guard in Quesada reported the incident, adding that so far nobody has been seen trying to cross the border. Neither the casualties in the skirmish nor the perpetrators of this confrontation are known, the minister said in conclusion.

FIRMS CONFISCATED BY JUNTA FORMALLY NOTIFIED

PA231544 Managua International Service in Spanish 0030 GMT 23 Jul 81

[Text] The Nicaraguan Justice Ministry has formally notified the 15 firms that were confiscated by a junta decree on 19 July during the main event marking the 2d anniversary of the revolutionary victory and the 20th anniversary of the founding of the Sandinist front.

Justice Minister Ernesto Castillo said the ministry had received information that all these firms were engaging in capital depletion. The ministry proceeded to investigate each firm to confirm the charges and the governing junta, as the highest organization of the country as established by the constitution, ruled and decreed their confiscation.

FORMER OWNERS CLAIMING PROPERTIES THEY ABANDONED

[illegible]

[Excerpt] Following the announcement by Daniel Ortega Saavedra, coordinator of the junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, regarding the ownership of land in neighborhoods seized by the government a number of problems have been popping up. For example, the people that for many years have lived in Waspan are now confronted by the problem that other persons are claiming ownership of the property that they had abandoned. Such is the case of a woman who has been living in a little house for the past 10 years. Now a man has shown up saying that the property, which he abandoned years ago, is his.

POPULAR ORGANIZATIONS OPPOSE CLOSING OF STATION

PA180444 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 9 Jul 81 pp 1, 7

[Text] The popular organizations yesterday expressed their rejection of the decision of the Directorate of Radio Frequencies to close Radio Continental because its situation is not comparable, politically or legally, to that of Radio Mi Preferida.

In commenting on the matter, Juan Molina, secretary general of the Union of Nicaraguan Journalists, noted: "The law must not be applied to two radio stations with different objectives; one is operating for profit and publicity, and the other to educate the people and to consolidate the process."

Molina added that the stations should be evaluated separately and carefully to determine the degree of orientation or confusion that they are transmitting every minute over the frequencies that are the property of the state.

"Many may believe," he said, "that the law should be applied equally, but I feel that a station of the People's Property Area (La Continental) directly determined to make up for all the damage that it caused the people by supporting the Somozist dictatorship, deserves an opportunity."

Radio Continental, he added, is fulfilling a social function as a means of social communication, while "Mi Preferida" is a station that is measured by the income and expenses of its owner.

The criteria of communications in the revolution is a very serious matter; all you have to do is hear and read the media of the local reactionaries to realize, he emphasized, the degree of destabilization promoted at a time when the people need security to produce.

"In the case of Mi Preferida, one must see how much the owner is losing when it is closed, while in the case of Radio Continental one must measure the loss in education, organization and popular communication. Therefore, this matter cannot be viewed just from a legal standpoint, but from a revolutionary standpoint," Molina added.

Jose Esteban Quezada, director of Radio Continental, said that he felt that the attitude of Luis Lacayo, director of radio frequencies, had been unfair and hasty, because the antennas of this station are located farther from Managua than the antennas of other stations such as Radio Mil, which is currently located in Loma Linda.

He noted that Radio Continental did not appear on the list drafted by the Directorate of Radio Frequencies and that this measure hurts more than 30 workers who work in this station of the people's property area.

Quezada said that the technical possibilities to solve the problem are being studied. The popular organizations were preparing their position in this regard today, which is none other than that of rejection.

Director Calls Closing Illegal

PA160319 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 15 Jul 81

[Text] Jose Esteban Quezada presented a document this morning to Companero Luis Lacayo, director of radio frequencies, containing technical data in line with international norms that show that the closing of Radio Continental, the radio station he directs, has no legal basis.

The document states that according to the drawing of the perimeter of the city of Managua prepared by (?Mimba), this perimeter goes around the residential areas that compose the city but the lake's shoreline is not outlined and therefore cannot be used as a perimeter limit.

Radio Continental has its installations 500 meters away from the lake's shorelines and 720 meters away from the house at the end of the Santa Clara neighborhood. Therefore, Radio Continental is outside the perimeter, the document says.

The document concludes by noting that when Radio Continental received the order to close, it was off the air because of transmitter problems, and that it finally tested a 2-kw transmitter and this was properly reported to the Office of the Director of Radio Frequencies.

MINISTER SAYS ENOUGH WHEAT EXISTS FOR 18 MONTHS

PA240304 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 1200 GMT 23 Jul 81

[Excerpt] Minister of Domestic Trade Dionisio Marenco Gutierrez said yesterday at a news conference that Nicaragua has wheat reserves to last 1 and 1/2 years. He said that this wheat was obtained through the solidarity of brother countries following the U.S. refusal to sell or supply the grain. He stated that a GDR ship was, at that moment, unloading 50,000 tons of foodstuffs in the port of Corinto.

BRIEFS

MALARIA SITUATION--Dr Milton Valdez, the director of the malaria control and eradication program, has reported that 85 percent of all the malaria cases reported in Nicaragua were located in Chinandega, Leon, Granada, Managua and Zelaya Departments. He added that control and not eradication measures are being taken at this time and that as of May 1981, 5,800 cases had been reported. [Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 12 Jul 81 p 4B PA]

COTTON PLANS--Managua, 13 Jul (ACAN-EFE)--The Ministry of Planning has announced that the Nicaraguan Government plans to plant 95,000 hectares of cotton for the 1981-82 farming year. The government is also offering growers a minimum of $82 per hundred-weight and a mechanized harvest collection. The government also has threatened to take over idle land to turn it over to small farmers for planting cotton. [Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0157 GMT 14 Jul 81 PA]

CLERGYMEN IN EASTERN BLOC--Ten members of the Nicaraguan clergy have just returned from a visit to European socialist countries--the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Bulgaria--where they met with church and government leaders. The ten clergymen are Reinaldo de Jesus Mendoza Obando, Rico Emiliano Moralez Membreno, Carlos Francisco Fuentes, Clemente Francisco Uribe Martinez of the Catholic Church; Reverend Eugenio Zamora of the Baptist Church; Carlos Alberto Rios Marchoti and Ines del Socorro Morales Ortega of the Church of God; and Jose Francisco Ortiz, Enrique Aguirre Silva and Sixto Ulloa from the Catholic Church in Leon. [Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 2300 GMT 14 Jul 81 PA]

FIDEL CASTRO VISITS ISLE OF YOUTH INSTALLATIONS

FL231830 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 23 Jul 81

[Text] Our Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Central Committee and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, visited places of special importance in the special municipality of the Isle of Youth yesterday, Wednesday. The chief of the revolution was at the No 5 dairy farm in La Victoria cattle breeding district, which is averaging a high milk production. Our commander in chief also visited the Primero de Enero ceramics plant and the Segundo Congreso chinaware factory, where he had a lively dialogue with the workers regarding production and the conditions of that industry.

RODRIGUEZ CLOSES MINREX ADMINISTRATIVE MEETING

FL231032 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 23 Jul 81

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, member of the PCC Politburo and vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers, has closed a meeting of the enlarged Directorate for Administrative Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Relations [MINREX]. The meeting, attended by the ambassadors to analyze the performance and implementation of foreign policy decisions contained in the report delivered by Comrade Fidel to the second party congress and in the resolution adopted by the congress on international policy, was held at the MINREX auditorium.

Chairing the meeting in addition to Rodriguez were Jesus Montane, alternate member of the Politburo and chief of the General Department of Foreign Relations; Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca; and other high-ranking MINREX officials.

In his conclusions, Carlos Rafael Rodriguez hailed the work accomplished in fulfillment of the decisions adopted at the second congress, and made reference to the successful completion of the recently concluded seminar for ambassadors. He also reviewed the most important aspects of the international situation.

NEW AMBASSADOR TO USSR NAMED; OTHER APPOINTMENTS

FL241021 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 24 Jul 81

[Text] The Council of State has appointed Comrade Rene Anillo Capote, an alternate member of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee who held the post of first vice minister of foreign relations, as the new Cuban ambassador to the Soviet Union. The Council of State also decided to appoint Comrade Jose R. Viera Linares as first vice minister of foreign relations. Comrades Oscar Oramas, Giraldo Mazola and Jorge Bolanos were appointed vice ministers of foreign relations.

BRIEFS

CONDOLENCES FOR BULGARIAN MINISTER--Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, member of the PCC Politburo and vice president of the Councils of State and of Ministers; Isidoro Malmierca, member of the PCC Central Committee and minister of foreign relations; and other high-ranking Cuban Government officials have visited the Bulgarian Embassy in Havana to express their condolences over the death of Lyudmila Zhivkova, Bulgarian culture minister and chairman of the Committee of Culture, who died in Sofia recently. [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2024 GMT 23 Jul 81 FL]

CUBAN CULTURE MINISTER ATTENDS CARIBBEAN FESTIVAL

FL221925 Bridgetown CANA in English 1834 GMT 22 Jul 81

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbardos, 22 Jul (CANA)--Cuba has proposed closer cooperation in culture among Caribbean states in order to strengthen regional unity and frustrate those (unnamed) who wished to perpetuate the divisions of the colonial period.

Cuban Minister of Culture Armando Hart, in Barbados for the fourth Caribbean Festival of Creative Arts (CARIFESTA), said a ministers' conference here Monday had reached concensus on the need for such cooperation, but had not yet worked out a timetable. Meetings either at ministerial or experts levels are to be organized, Hart told a press conference and expressed his wish to see such action as early as possible.

Hart is heading his country's large contingent to the colourful 2-week festival of songs, music, dance, magic and mime, art and craft...with the theme being "living images of the sun." The Cuban presentations have been attracting large audiences and Hart remarked that the scope of Cuba's involvement was a measure of its commitment to Caribbean friendship and unity.

It was through culture and the arts, he reasoned, that Cuba can deepen its ties with the rest of the Caribbean, thus changing the pattern of isolation that had charaterized pre-revolutionary [as received] Cuba. The revolution there and the coming into independence of many of the other island states were parallel processes which had provided greater possibilities for unity.

Hart disclosed that Cuban workers, based on the ship which brought the 180-member CARIFESTA contingent, had completed the erection of a huge tent just outside Bridgetown. It was being put at the disposal of the festival organizers for the staging of shows--by Cuba and other countries. But he explained that no conditions were being attached to its use. He had been asked to confirm that Cuba wanted the presentations there to be free to the general public. Hart said the Cuban contingent could not seek to instruct a sovereign country on such matters. Cuba, in hosting the third CARIFESTA in 1979, had received assistance from various countries had itself offered aid this time, the erection of the tent being such.

Hart emphasized the Afro-Caribbean roots of Cuban culture, as reflected in the CARIFESTA presentations, and stressed their similarity with those of other countries of the region.

"CARIFESTA and the cultural spirit shown here are a demonstration of the path we must take," he declared through an interpretor. The process toward togetherness must be maintained, he said, proposing that there be more frequent cultural contact, other than the periodic big festival. Guyana hosted the first CARIFESTA in 1972 and Jamaica the second in 1976. There should be efforts in the literary, scientific, cultural and other fields. Smaller cooperative efforts in culture, perhaps annually, would also facilitate the tiny countries who may have some difficulty in hosting CARIFESTA.

Hart referred to two cultural events which Cuba would be hosting later this year and to which invitations were being extended for Caribbean particpation. Early September, Latin American and Caribbean intellectuals will be meeting in Havana to discuss matters related to the defense of the sovereignty of peoples and the problems which intellectuals themselves face in the hemisphere. At the end of Novemmber there is to be a music festival to which Calypsonian Mighty Sparrow, an honored guest at this CARIFESTA, had accepted an invitation.

"We have to be more united in the field of art and culture. We have a common history. The past divided us, but the future unites us. This is what we want. These are values which should be defended by every man and woman," Hart said.

Further Comments by Minister

FL231505 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1400 GMT 23 Jul 81

[Text] Bridgetown--Cuban Culture Minister Armando Hart Davalos has asserted that only the unity of the Caribbean peoples can overcome the obstacles put up by those who wish to impede the knowledge of Caribbean culture in the world.

During a news conference given during the fourth Caribbean Festival of Creative Arts [CARIFESTA] which is being held at Bridgetown, Hart stated that the CARIFESTA has generated a powerful artistic movement with a spirit of Caribbean cultural unity. He stressed that the Caribbean countries are determined to show the cultural image of their peoples and make it known to the world. Armando Hart also said that the Barbados CARIFESTA is proof of the great progress that has been made in the organization of these festivals. He added, however, that now is the time to think over the steps we can take in the future.

When asked by a Barbadian newsman about the interest of the Cubans in the CARIFESTA, Hart pointed out that these festivals provide opportunities of establishing artistic and literary links with the peoples of the region and are also a way of consolidating the presence of African culture.

Hart concluded by referring to a meeting of Latin American and Caribbean intellectuals which will be organized by the Casa de las Americas next September and underscored that it will be attended by some prominent Caribbean writers.

JAMAICA

FISHING AGREEMENT TO BE SIGNED WITH COLOMBIA

FL231908 Bridgetown CANA in English 1817 GMT 23 Jul 81

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, 23 Jul (CANA)--Jamaica and Colombia are close to signing a fishing agreement, Jamaica's Junior Foreign Minister Neville Gallimore has said. Dr Gallimore held talks this week with his Colombian counterpart Julio Londano and later reported significant progress in efforts to conclude a fishing accord.

Last month 16 Jamaican fishermen were arrested by authorities in the South American state for illegal fishing in Colombian waters. The fishermen were freed after Jamaica paid fines totalling 16,000 dollars. The fishermen had left here to fish in the Pedro Banks, on which lie the Jamaican-owned Pedro Cays, about 50 miles south of here. About the same distance south of the Pedro Cays is the island of Bajo Nuevo, owned by Colombia. Jamaicans straying into the Colombian 200-mile economic zone from the Jamaican waters around the Pedro Banks has been a recurring problem, and Dr Gallimore said following "frank exchanges and hard bargaining an agreement should be ready in a short time." The agreement, he said, would go a long way towards preventing further problems.

ST VINCENT

BRIEFS

ROK AMBASSADOR--Kingstown, St Vincent, 23 Jul (CANA)--South Korea's ambassador to St Vincent and the Grenadines, Choe Sang-chin, has offered to provide technical and economic assistance to the St Vincent Government. Mr Choe, who is also accredited to Jamaica and Barbados, was recently here to present his credentials to St Vincent's governor-general, Sir Sydney Gun-Munro. The ambassador stated that his government was particularly interested in the development of the island's fishing and agricultural industries, noting that over the years, the island had received substantial aid from the Korean Government. The Korean ambassador is now in Barbados where he is also expected to present his credentials to the governor-general and hold talks with top government ministers and officials. [Bridgetown CANA in English 1416 GMT 23 Jul 81 FL]